

COURSE SYLLABUS

RNSG 1146 (1:1:0)

LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES FOR NURSES

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM

NURSING DEPARTMENT

HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION

LEVELLAND CAMPUS

SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE

SPRING 2023

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: RNSG 1146 Legal and Ethical Issues for Nurses

INSTRUCTORS: Denise Glab MSN, RN
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OFFICE LOCATION AND PHONE/E-MAIL:

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SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE IMPROVES EACH STUDENT'S LIFE

I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course consists of the study of the laws, regulations, and ethical considerations related to the provision of safe and effective professional nursing care; with attention given to the impact of the political process on the regulations surrounding the practice of nursing. Topics also included are confidentiality, the Nursing Practice Act, professional boundaries, peer review, Safe Harbor, ethics, and health care legislation. Student self-assessment is encouraged to facilitate each student becoming accountable and responsible for professional, personal, ethical, and legal growth and development within nursing practice.

Prerequisites: RNSG 1413, 1105, 1160, 1115, 1144, 1443, 2460, 2213, 2261, 1443, & 2461. BIOL 2401, 2402, 2420. PSYC 2314, ENGL 1301, & Humanities course.

SPC (SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE) ADN End-of-Program STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (EPSLOs)

1. CLINICAL DECISION MAKING – Provides competent nursing interventions based on application of the nursing process and demonstration of critical thinking, independent judgment, and self-direction while caring for patients and their families.
2. COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT – Communicates effectively utilizing technology, written documentation, and verbal expression with members of the health care team, patients, and their families.

3. LEADERSHIP – Demonstrates knowledge of basic delegation, leadership management skills and coordinates resources to assure optimal levels of health care for patients and their families.
4. SAFETY – Implements appropriate interventions to promote a quality and safe environment for patients and their families.
5. PROFESSIONALISM – Demonstrates knowledge of professional development and incorporates evidenced based practice in the nursing profession. Incorporates concepts of caring, including moral, ethical, legal standards while embracing the spiritual, cultural and religious influences on patients and their families.

RNSG 1146 STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

1. Demonstrate knowledge of professional development and incorporate evidence-based practice in the nursing profession. Incorporate concepts of caring, including moral, ethical, legal standards while embracing the spiritual, cultural, psycho-social, and religious influences on patients, their families, and the community in general.
2. Acquire an understanding of the Texas Nurse Practice Act and how it applies to the RN and LVN roles in leading to successful completion of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) Jurisprudence (JP) Exam.
3. Upon satisfactory completion of RNSG 1146, the student will meet all End of Program Graduate Outcomes (EPSLOs) as specifically applied to nursing and the nurse's legal/ethical scope of practice. In addition, competencies, and foundation skills of SCANS, WECM and the DEC's will be met through completion of the course content.

COURSE OUTLINE

Unit I – Nursing Ethics and Disciplinary Action

Unit II – Peer Review

Unit III – Nursing Practice

Unit IV – Nursing Licensure & Regulation

Unit V – Debate Issues to address Political Processes, Legislative Issues and Health (See Appendix for unit objectives)

EVALUATION METHODS

Successful completion of this course will result in a minimum grade of 77% to pass the course. Grade point average will be based on assignments; satisfactory achievement of course content, and regular classroom attendance. Also, the student must pass the Texas Board of Nursing Jurisprudence Exam to receive credit for the course. Upon successful completion of this course, each student will have demonstrated accomplishment of the student learning outcomes for the course, through a variety of modes (classroom participation, Blackboard postings, individual presentations, and group presentations).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

South Plains College aims to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as the most serious offense and renders the offender liable to profound consequences, possibly suspension. Please refer to the SPC ADN Nursing student handbook "Honesty Policy." This policy covers testing violations, record falsification violations and plagiarism violations for the ADN Program. Plagiarism violations may result in dismissal from the ADN Program.

Examples of student plagiarism¹

- Copying material without quotes, in-text citations, and/or referencing
- Paraphrasing content without in-text citation and/or referencing
- Copying ideas, words, answers, exams, or shared work from others when individual work is required
- Using another's paper in whole or in part
- Allowing another student to use one's work
- Claiming someone else's work is one's own
- Resubmitting one's own coursework when original work is required (self-plagiarism)
- Falsifying references or bibliographies
- Getting help from another person without faculty knowledge or approval
- Purchasing, borrowing, or selling content with the intent of meeting an academic requirement for oneself or others

Smith, L. (2016), Nursing 2016, 46 (7) p. 17

Cheating - Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the textbook or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in the office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in presenting all coursework phases. This applies to quizzes of whatever length, final examinations, daily reports, and term papers.

Plagiarism - Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism. Any student who fails to give credit for quotations or identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines, websites such as: blogs, journals, or articles, other referenced works, from themes, reports, and/or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism. If there is any suspicion of work completed by Artificial Intelligence (A.I.), the student and their work may be questioned, and if proven that A.I. was used will be considered guilty of plagiarism.

Students must adhere to the professional standards in the Associate Degree School of Nursing Handbook. It is the responsibility of the School of Nursing to teach and model professional behaviors, and it is the responsibility of the student to demonstrate professional and academic integrity. The students represent the School of Nursing and are expected to maintain the highest standards.

VERIFICATION OF WORKPLACE COMPETENCIES

Successful completion of the SCANS; DECS; Graduate Outcomes at the semester four level; and RNSG 1412 Student Learning Outcomes will allow the student to graduate from the program. Upon successful completion of the program students will be eligible to apply to take the state board exam (NCLEX) for registered nurse licensure.

BLACKBOARD

Blackboard is an e-Education platform designed to enable educational innovations everywhere by connecting people and technology. This educational tool will be used in this course throughout the semester.

FACEBOOK

The nursing program has a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SPCNursing17/>

SCANS AND FOUNDATION SKILLS

Completion of course content will satisfy required scans and foundation skills.

While there are no external workplace (clinical) experiences included, classroom role play, and group experiences provide situations and settings in which the student may apply workplace competencies. Successful completion of the end of program graduate outcomes (EPSLOs) will allow the student to complete specific program requirements. Upon successful completion of the nursing program, the student will be eligible to take the State Board Exam (NCLEX) for licensure as a Registered Nurse.

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class Attendance

Students must attend all classes to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

Because of the fast pace of this course within the ADN Program, make-up work is not accepted in this course. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at registration. Should a student delay reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first-class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a

class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate, and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

(http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=47&navoid=1229#Class_Attendance)

ATTENDANCE PHILOSOPHY: Research has proven that academic achievement for each student is enhanced when the student has regular and punctual attendance. In order to foster accountability, to match the work environment policies, and to foster learning and understanding, attendance is mandatory in the Vocational Nursing Program. Understanding that illnesses and unavoidable problems do arise, the VNP does allow for some absences within the program. Faculty do not ask why a student is absent because they are an adult learner. Faculty also do not make up classes or repeat lectures for students who miss a class; students who are absent should obtain missed information from a fellow classmate.

Additionally, one way a student demonstrates the nursing caring attitude is through timeliness and attendance.

4.1-A. CLASSROOM ATTENDANCE: Learning is fostered in the classroom environment. Missing even one lecture/class activity can negatively impact student performance; therefore, classroom attendance is mandatory, and students are accountable to attend and be on time for class.

Allowable absences in this class will be **one (1) absence**. Students should take an absence when they are truly ill (running fever, nausea/vomiting not due to pregnancy, diarrhea, or some other communicable disease). A physician's release should be submitted when the student is treated by a physician.

Students who exceed the allowable absence no longer meet the course criteria and must withdraw.

Students should take an absence when they are truly ill (running fever, nausea/vomiting not due to pregnancy, diarrhea, or some other communicable disease). A physician's release should be submitted when the student is treated by a physician.

Absences are recorded for the entire day if a class is scheduled for the entire day. If a student leaves before the end of the class period, the student is marked "absent" for the day. A student who misses the morning session may attend the afternoon session to get the information, but the student is still marked as "absent" for the day. There are no "half-day" absences. If the student is asked to leave the classroom for any reason (sleeping, talking or other inappropriate behavior), the student is given an absence. Attendance is most often taken by a sign in sheet. Students who "forget" to sign in are counted as absent.

As a matter of courtesy and professional behavior, a student who is going to be absent should email or call the course instructor and inform the instructor of the pending absence.

4.1-B. TARDINESS— It is disruptive to students who are on time for a tardy student to enter the classroom with books and backpacks. It also demonstrates a lack of caring and lack of respect for classmates for the tardy student to disrupt class.

* Students who are (1) tardy to the start of class or (2) tardy following a break or lunch are counted as tardy within the first 5 minutes of the class starting (after that, students are “absent”).

* Students who are tardy to class for an examination are not allowed to come into class once the exam has begun and are counted as absent. These students may come into class after the examination is over to hear the information, but the absence will remain.

* Two tardies count as one absence.

4.1-C. ATTENDANCE RECORDS: Because the student is an adult learner, each student should keep his/her own record of absence. Faculty is under NO obligation to inform a student of absences; the student will be notified when he/she no longer meets program objectives because of excessive absences and the student is being withdrawn. Should the student believe a discrepancy exists, the student should submit the notice in writing to the Program Director within 24 hours of notification.

COVID CONSIDERATION

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or test for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376. Proof of a positive test is required. A home test is sufficient but students must submit a photo of the positive result. The date of test must be written on the test result and an ID included in the photo. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor’s note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at dedens@southplainscollege.edu.

A student is clear to return to class without further assessment from DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN if they have completed the 5-day isolation period, symptoms have improved, and they are without fever for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.

Students must communicate with DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 5-day isolation

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

1. All required work must be in on time. Assigned outside work is due on the dates specified by the

instructors. Assignments turned in later than the due date will not be accepted unless the student clears the circumstance with the instructor. A grade of zero will be given for the assignment if the student has not communicated with the instructor before the assignment is due.

2. A student should retain a copy of all assignments turned in. If an assignment turns up missing, the student is responsible for turning in the copy or redoing the entire assignment if a copy was not retained.

3. The only exam is the Texas Board of Nursing Jurisprudence Exam. A student must communicate with the course instructor if unable to complete the test on the scheduled day. (If the student has taken the Jurisprudence Exam in an LVN Program, a copy of the certificate or proof of taking the exam must be turned in to the instructor, please ask for guidance in seeking this information if needed).

GRADING POLICY

1. A student must receive a minimum grade of 77 to pass.

2. Grading Scales:

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 - 89.99

C = 77 – 79.99

D = 60 – 76.99

F = below 60

Note: The student MUST pass the Texas Board of Nursing Jurisprudence Exam to receive credit for this course. Students who do not pass or are not eligible to take the NJE *, will receive an “I” (Incomplete) until such time as the exam is passed, not to exceed six months. If the course Grade requirements are not met after six months, the “I” will be converted to an “F”

Course grade will be compiled of the following:

All Students Nursing Jurisprudence Exam 25%

All students: Article Critiques 25%

Students in Debate: participation 30%

Students in Debate: questions 20%

Students in mini presentations: participation 30%

Students in mini presentations: questions 20%

Students will either be in debate or mini presentation, not both*

COMPUTER USAGE

As computer technology in the field of health occupations continues to become more popular, computers will be used in this course for several assignments. All students have access to computers

and printers on the South Plains College campus. Students will be expected to utilize computers to access assignments and classroom resources. All registered students are supplied with a working email account from South Plains College. To take exams, students must have their username and password.

COMPUTER LAB USAGE

Computer lab B in the Allied Health Building may not be used for printing by students due to COVID restrictions. If the restrictions are lifted during the Fall 2021 semester, students will be advised of the availability.

ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO KNOW THEIR SPC STUDENT USERNAME AND PASSWORD.

EXAMS

Exams are a measurement of learning, and while they do not measure ALL learning, exams are the instruments used in the academic setting to measure learning. Because of the nature of this material and of nursing, ALL information in this course is important. Someday, the student in the role of the vocational nurse may be the only person to stand between the patient and harm or death. Therefore, the student is NOT merely studying to pass the exam but studying to intervene on the behalf of the patient.

Exams may cover information given during lectures, handouts, and assigned reading of the texts.

Exams may be administered in a campus computer lab using ExamSoft and the lab must be reserved by the instructor in advance. Students are expected to arrive on time to exams and complete the exams within the period allowed as other classes may be booked behind our scheduled time and you will not be permitted to take your exam past the scheduled time unless arrangements are made in advance for extenuating circumstances. Due to the ever-changing COVID conditions, you may take exams on Exam Soft and have it proctored or on Blackboard with Proctorio. It is your responsibility to make sure that you have working computers with a web cam and a microphone and reliable internet.

NO HATS, BLANKETS, HOODIES, OR CAPS ARE TO BE WORN DURING QUIZZES AND EXAMS.

FOOD, BACKPACKS, BOOKS, ELECTRONIC DEVICES (COMPUTERS, IPADS, PHONES, SMART WATCH, ETC.) ARE NOT TO BE IN THE ROOM DURING EXAMINATIONS.

ALL STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE SHIRT SLEEVES PULLED UP TO ELBOWS DURING TESTING.

THE STUDENT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE CLASSROOM ONCE TESTING HAS BEGUN.

1. Grades will be given to students during allotted class time.
2. Each student should know current course averages for all classes.
3. Students must earn a "C" (77) or better in this class for progression.
4. Students can review all grades as they are recorded. Should the student have any questions about a specific grade or specific test question, the student must discuss this with the instructor within 48 hours of notification of grade assignment. Once the 48 hours have passed without the student questioning the grade or question, **the assigned grade is final and may not be challenged at the end of the course. The final exam may not be reviewed.**

5. The Final Exam grade and a numerical course grade will be posted on BlackBoard. The final course grade will be posted to CampusConnect as the transcribed letter grade.
6. Once grades are posted, an exam is ready for review. When possible, exams will be made available for all students to review at the end of a lecture (time permitting) but if that is not possible, a student may email me for an appointment to come by the office and review the exam.

Grades will not be given or discussed by email or phone.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Class will meet scheduled on Tuesdays or Wednesdays during the semester. Please see the detailed calendar on Blackboard course.

COMMUNICATION POLICY

To contact Denise Glab please text 806-773-2017. To contact Kaitlyn Williams, utilize the Remind App. If contact is after business hours may not be answered until the next business day.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Rules and regulations relating to the students at South Plains College are made with the view of protecting the best interests of the individual, the general welfare of the entire student body and the educational objectives of the college. As in any segment of society, a college community must be guided by standards that are stringent enough to prevent disorder, yet moderate enough to provide an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and personal development.

A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. When a student enrolls at South Plains College, it is assumed that the student accepts the obligations of performance and behavior imposed by the college relevant to its lawful missions, processes, and functions. Obedience to the law, respect for properly constituted authority, personal honor, integrity, and common sense guide the actions of each member of the college community both in and out of the classroom.

Students are subject to federal, state, and local laws, and South Plains College rules and regulations. A student is not entitled to greater immunities or privileges before the law than those enjoyed by other citizens. Students are subject to reasonable disciplinary action as the college administration may consider appropriate, including suspension and expulsion in appropriate cases for breach of federal, state, or local laws, or college rules and regulations. This principle extends to conduct off-campus which is likely to have adverse effects on the college or on the educational process which identifies the offender as an unfit associate for fellow students.

Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be asked to withdraw.

Rules and regulations regarding student conduct appear in the current Student Guide.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group difference and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about

others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

DISABILITES STATEMENT

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Lubbock Centers (located at the Lubbock Downtown Center) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

South Plains College does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

TITLE IX PREGNANCY ACCOMADATIONS STATEMENT

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations, you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Health and Wellness Center. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Health and Wellness Center at 806-716-2529 or email dburleson@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT

Texas Senate Bill 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes carrying a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and have a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

SCANS COMPETENCIES

RESOURCES: Identifies, organizes, plans, and allocates resources. C-1 TIME--Selects goal--relevant activities, ranks them, allocates time, and prepares and follows schedules. C-2 MONEY--Uses or prepares budgets, makes forecasts, keeps records, and adjusts meet objectives C-3 MATERIALS & FACILITIES--Acquires, stores, allocates, and uses materials or space efficiently. C-4 HUMAN RESOURCES--Assesses skills and distributes work accordingly, evaluates performances and provides feedback. INFORMATION--Acquires and Uses Information C-5 Acquires and evaluates information. C-6 Organizes and maintains information. C-7 Interprets and communicates information. C-8 Uses computers to Process information. INTERPERSONAL--Works with Others C-9 Participates as members of a team and contributes to group effort. C-10 Teaches others new skills. C-11 Serves clients/customers--works to satisfy customer's expectations. C-12 Exercises leadership--communicates ideas to justify position, persuades and convinces others, responsibly challenges existing procedures and policies. C-13 Negotiates--Works toward agreements involving exchanges of resources resolves divergent interests. C-14 Works with Diversity--Works well with men and women from diverse backgrounds. SYSTEMS--Understands Complex Interrelationships C-15 Understands Systems--Knows how social, organizational, and technological systems work and operates effectively with them C-16 Monitors and Correct Performance--Distinguishes trends, predicts impacts on system operations, diagnoses systems' performance and corrects malfunctions. C-17 Improves or Designs Systems--Suggests modifications to existing systems and develops new or alternative systems to improve performance. TECHNOLOGY--Works with a variety of technologies C-18 Selects Technology--Chooses procedures, tools, or equipment including computers and related technologies. C-19 Applies Technology to Task--Understands overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment. C-20 Maintains and Troubleshoots Equipment--Prevents, identifies, or solves problems with equipment, including computers and other technologies.

FOUNDATION SKILLS

BASIC SKILLS--Reads, writes, performs arithmetic and mathematical operations, listens, and speaks F-1 Reading--locates, understands, and interprets written information in prose and in documents such as manuals, graphs, and schedules. F-2 Writing--Communicates thoughts, ideas, information, and messages in writing, and creates documents such as letters, directions, manuals, reports, graphs, and flow charts. F-3 Arithmetic--Performs basic computations; uses basic numerical concepts such as whole numbers, etc. F-4 Mathematics--Approaches practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques. F-5 Listening--Receives, attends to, interprets, and responds to verbal messages and other cues. F-6 Speaking--Organizes ideas and communicates orally. THINKING SKILLS--Thinks creatively, makes decisions, solves problems, visualizes, and knows how to learn and reason F-7 Creative Thinking--Generates innovative ideas. F-8 Decision-Making--Specifies goals and constraints, generates alternatives, considers risks, and evaluates and chooses best alternative. F-9 Problem Solving--Recognizes problems and devises and implements plan of action. F-10 Seeing Things in the Mind's Eye--Organizes and processes symbols, pictures, graphs, objects, and other information. F-11 Knowing How to Learn--Uses efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills. F-12 Reasoning--Discovers a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and applies it when solving a problem. PERSONAL QUALITIES--Displays responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity, and honesty F-13 Responsibility--Exerts a high level of effort and preservers

towards goal attainment. F-14 Self-Esteem--Believes in own self-worth and maintains a positive view of self. F-15 Sociability--Demonstrates understanding, friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness in group settings. F-16 Self-Management--Assesses self accurately, sets personal goals, monitors progress, and exhibits self-control F-17 Integrity/Honesty--Chooses ethical courses of action.