MED 6815
Health Ethics Practicum
Spring/Summer Semester 2014

Practicum Coordinator: Dr. Chris Kaposy

Contact information:
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Description:
A practicum is an opportunity to give the student exposure to the daily realities of health ethics in a variety of settings. The course will be a practical counterpart to the text- and classroom based courses in the Master's program. The practicum will give students a chance to integrate the knowledge they have acquired in their previous courses with the habits and skills required of an ethicist working in the clinical, research, and policy milieu of health care.

Activities:
Students will be involved in health ethics activities in 3 areas:

- Clinical ethics
- Research ethics
- Health policy ethics

The experiences in each area will vary, but could consist of clinical ethics consultations, clinical ethics committee meetings, research ethics (HREB) meetings, ethics policy development work, and job shadowing. Opportunities for participation in these activities will typically come from faculty members and the PHENNL ethics service, but student-initiated activities can also qualify as appropriate practicum activities if approved by the practicum coordinator. Student-organized mock ethics meetings (i.e. simulated research ethics review, simulated ethics consultations) will qualify as appropriate practicum activities – but must be balanced by "real-world" activities.

Evaluation:
In order to pass **MED 6815 – Health Ethics Practicum**, students must:

1. Have a minimum of 40 hours of experience in practicum activities, balanced across the 3 areas (clinical, research, and health policy ethics). Practicum activities experienced by the student prior to the semester in which he/she registers for the practicum count towards the 40 hour requirement. The faculty coordinator will judge whether the student has participated in an appropriate range and balance of activities.

2. Maintain a reflective journal documenting practicum activities throughout the degree program, including
    a. The amount of time spent on each activity (i.e., keep an activity log)

b. A description of the activity (including purpose, time, place, event, others present, and role/participation activities of the student)
c. Reflections about the experience. (Reflections could possibly include, but are not limited to: a discussion of ethics issues identified and considered during the work experience; self-critique of engagement in the process; lessons learned; challenges and strategies identified for a particular issue. Approximately 3 pages double spaced is generally sufficient for a particular reflection)

3. Write a research paper analyzing one ethical issue encountered during the entire practicum. The paper should be 12-15 pages in length (double-spaced, 12-point font). It is due on **August 8 2014**.