

**College of Medicine Elective****COURSE NUMBER:** MEL-7005**COURSE TITLE:** Special Topics in Medicine and Law**CAMPUS:** Tallahassee Main Campus**ELECTIVE LOCATION:** This elective may occur in any of the regional campuses or any other appropriate place negotiated between the Course Director and the student. The specific site will depend on the particular activities negotiated between the Course Director and each student.**BLOCKS OFFERED:** All**NUMBER OF STUDENTS PERMITTED/BLOCK:** 1-4**DEPARTMENT:** Center for Innovative Collaboration in Medicine & Law  
Department of Geriatrics**CREDIT HOURS:** 2 or 4**HOURS:** 80 (M-F, 8-5 x 2 weeks) or 160 (M-F, 8-5 x 4 weeks)**ELECTIVE DIRECTOR:** Marshall B. Kapp, J.D., M.P.H.**ADDITIONAL FACULTY:** To be determined on an individual basis**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** The student will be better able to:

- 1) Identify specific legal issues he/she is likely to encounter in clinical medical practice.
- 2) Use knowledge of applicable legal principles and the legal system to make legally, ethically, and clinically sound decisions in the conduct of patient care.
- 3) Compare and contrast different options in treating patients in light of relevant legal considerations.
- 4) Understand and interact with the legal system as issues arise in the conduct of clinical medical practice.

**DESCRIPTION OF ELECTIVE - REQUIRED EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES:**

This is either a 2-week or 4-week experience individually tailored to the interests of the particular students enrolled. Each individually designed experience will focus on preparation of the student to deal more effectively with legal issues and processes likely to be encountered in clinical medical practice. Illustrative substantive topics that might be covered during the student's educational experience include professional liability and risk management, informed consent (including surrogate decision making for decisionally incapacitated patients), confidentiality, disability determinations, access to public and private health benefits and resources, regulation of health care professionals and facilities, public health regulation, and

legal facets of medical care at the end of life. Illustrative specific activities in which a student might engage include: placement in a government agency that regulates health care professionals or providers; placement in the office of a law firm or law school clinic that represents either patients or health care professionals and providers; or classroom discussion of cases (including those based on the student's own personal or professional experience) that raise legal concerns. Each student will be required to write a short (1,000-2,000 word) essay reflecting on the implications of his or her experiences and observations in this course for that student's future medical practice.

**REQUIRED READING:** To be determined, based on each student's particular activities

**COMMENTS:** Registration requires the student's prior consultation with, and permission of, the Elective Director.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Marshall B. Kapp, J.D., M.P.H.  
Center for Innovative Collaboration in Medicine & Law  
Florida State University College of Medicine  
1115 West Call Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4300

850-645-9260

Marshall.kapp@med.fsu.edu