

Odessa National Medical University
Department of philosophy and bioethics

Syllabus of the course
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PROFESSIONAL ETHICS OF SCIENTIFIC
ACTIVITY

Volume	3 credits (90 h)
Semester, year of study	II semester, 1st year
Time/place	The time and place (classroom number, auditorium) of classes are determined according to the approved schedule of the department at the address of Pasteur 2.
Faculty members	Khanzhy Volodymyr; D.Sc., professor; head of the department of philosophy and bioethics
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Working place	Office of the head of the department at Pasteur 2
Tutoring/ guidance/consultations	<i>Off line:</i> Thursdays – 14.00-16.00; Saturdays – 9.00-13.00 <i>Online:</i> Thursdays – 14.00-16.00; Saturdays – 9.00-13.00 <i>Microsoft Teams, Telegram/Viber</i>

COMMUNICATION

Communication with graduate students will be carried out in person (at the department); and remotely (E-mail, Microsoft Teams, Telegram, Viber, etc.).

COURSE ANNOTATION

Subject matter of the discipline: epistemological and ethical and legal principles and rules that should underpin the activities of participants in educational and scientific (creative) activities in order to ensure the reliability and fairness of these processes and their results, as well as moral problems arising in connection with the use of modern biomedical technologies in the professional activities of medical workers.

Course prerequisites and post-requisites (The place of the discipline in the educational program)

The study of the academic discipline “Academic Integrity and Professional Ethics of Scientific Activity” is based on the previous (providing) discipline “Philosophy and Methodology of Scientific and Medical Knowledge”, as well as specialty disciplines. At the same time, the study of this discipline ensures the preparation of graduate students and candidates for mastering the next discipline of the first year of study – “Teaching Methods in Higher Education”.

The aim of the course

The purpose of studying the academic discipline “Academic integrity and professional ethics of scientific activity” is mastering of a set of epistemological and

ethical principles, as well as rules defined by law, which should guide the participants of the educational process during learning, teaching and carrying out scientific (creative) activities in order to ensure trust in learning outcomes and/or scientific (creative) achievements, as well as the formation of a system of bio- and noetic thinking of a doctor-scientist.

Course objectives:

- definition of basic concepts, principles and rules of academic integrity;
- elucidation of national and international legal principles of academic integrity;
- understanding of epistemological and ethical and legal aspects of academic integrity;
- analysis and interpretation of criteria of rational (scientific) knowledge and regularities of the development of science;
- understanding the criteria of “scientificity” and the principles of academic integrity in scientific activity;
- formation of the ability to identify violations of academic integrity, prevention of academic plagiarism and other manifestations of unethical scientific activity;
- promoting the formation of a culture of academic integrity of the future scientist;
- acquisition of in-depth knowledge in the fields of ethics of science, biomedical ethics, philosophical anthropology, organizational and social psychology, psychology of scientific activity, necessary for solving current problems of medical theory and practice;
- providing the formation of the personality of a medical professional, which is capable of deepening the humanization of medical activity, promoting the implementation of modern principles of scientific activity and bioethical principles in medical practice;
- forming in the graduate students the basics of the culture of scientific activity, understanding the requirements and features of scientific communication, taking into account modern standards of scientific integrity and the possibilities of the information society;
- mastering theoretical and practical knowledge and skills of organization and management of scientific and medical staff;
- formation of the ability to effectively manage conflicts in scientific and medical teams;
- promoting the formation of understanding of the ethical and psychological aspects of the activity of a teacher of a higher medical school.

Expected results

As a result of studying the discipline, graduate students should

know:

- principles of research ethics;
- the essence of the distinction between epistemological and ethical and legal aspects of academic integrity;
- features and criteria of scientific knowledge; legal basis of copyright;
- citation rules and references to used sources;
- forms, methods and means of identification, search and storage of information;

- professional vocabulary and terminology according to the direction of scientific research;
- concept of research novelty;
- possibilities and limitations of the used research methods;
- the technology of writing articles for national and international scientific publications;
- standards for design of scientific works;
- the essence of bioethics as a worldview;
- ethical problems of existence and cognition in the context of human problems;
- the main stages and regularities of the formation of ethics and professional ethics;
- modern bio- and nooetic views;
- theoretical-methodological, organizational, communicative and psychological foundations of scientific and research activities;
- problems of humanization of modern medicine and ways to solve them;
- ethical and legal problems of using modern biomedical technologies;
- essence, forms, methods of ethical examination of scientific/clinical research.

be able to:

- use information technology to identify signs of plagiarism;
- apply modern information technologies in scientific activity;
- work with search engines;
- receive and adequately interpret data from foreign language sources and understand the peculiarities of scientific knowledge;
- to organize and carry out research and educational activities;
- evaluate the theoretical and practical significance of the research;
- conduct research in accordance with the purpose and objectives of the research using the selected methods;
- interpret research results;
- write a scientific article in accordance with the requirements of a scientific publication;
- analyze the essence of the bioethical outlook and the interdisciplinary direction of medicine, ethics and philosophical anthropology;
- apply the concepts of modern bioethics, ethics of science, organizational psychology and psychology of innovative activity for planning and carrying out research work;
- master the technology of scientific communication and the principles of scientific etiquette; communicate in a professional environment and with representatives of other professions in a national and international context;
- formulate and resolve ethical dilemmas arising in research activities, develop a scientific research project taking into account its ethical aspect;
- build professional activity in accordance with the values and principles of bioethics, the highest international and national normative standards in the field of bioethics;

- apply the principles of bioethics, the principles of proper laboratory and clinical practices when conducting clinical research and any scientific research;
- act as a guarantor of safety and protection of patients' rights in practical medicine when conducting clinical research.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

Forms and methods of teaching

The course will be presented in the form of lectures (16 hours) and seminars (30 hours), organization of independent work of students (44 hours); total: 90 hours (3 credits).

The study of the discipline is implemented on the basis of the following teaching methods:

- according to the dominant means of education: verbal, visual;
- drawing up graphic schemes;
- solving creative tasks;
- blitz survey;
- group discussions on problem situations;
- written tasks;
- individual control interview;
- logical exercises;
- role-playing (business) games;
- situational tasks (“case method”);
- individual philosophical research-project;
- a problem-based teaching method, which is aimed at forming students' capacity for dialogue and the ability to defend their own opinion;
- the “brainstorming” learning method, which encourages students to show a creative approach and find alternative methods of solving the proposed tasks through free expression of thoughts.

The content of the discipline

Topic 1. Concepts, general principles and rules of academic integrity. Regulatory and legal framework.

Topic 2. Epistemological and ethical and legal aspects of academic integrity. Knowledge and its satellites. Criteria of rational knowledge. The problem of the truth of knowledge.

Topic 3. Patterns of the development of science. Forms of organization of scientific knowledge. Scientific criteria and academic integrity in scientific activity. Violation of academic integrity. Anti-plagiarism measures. Rules of citation and references

Topic 4. Bioethics as a “science”, ethical and philosophical foundations of the bioethic worldview. Global bioethics and noetics as modern stages of development of bioethics. Problems of human birth, life, health, illness and death in the context of bioethics. Modern concept of biosafety.

Topic 5. Values and principles of American and European bioethics. Implementation of the principles of bioethics in medical practice in Ukraine.

Topic 6. Ethical and legal principles of regulation of biomedical research involving humans and experiments on animals. Informed consent to participate in clinical research as an implementation of the principle of respect for patient autonomy and dignity.

Topic 7. Ethics of scientific activity. Values of scientific knowledge. Social responsibility of the scientific community. International conventions on the role of science in society and the status of a scientist. Moral assessment of scientific and technical progress. Global problems of humanity: ethical understanding. Falsifications in science.

Topic 8. Ethical and organizational issues of relations in the higher medical school, scientific and medical teams. Ethical and psychological aspects of innovative activity.

List of recommended literature:

a) main::

Audi R. Epistemology: a contemporary introduction / Robert Audi / 3 ed. – London: Routledge, 2010. – 432 p.

Bretag T., ed. Handbook of Academic Integrity / Tracy Bretag. – Singapore: Springer, 2016. – 1097 p.

Johansson L-G. Philosophy of science for scientists / Lars-G Johansson. – Springer undergraduate texts in philosophy. – Springer Cham: Springer IP, 2019. – 257 p.

Rettinger D. Cheating Academic Integrity: Lessons from 30 Years of Research / D. Rettinger. – N.-Y.: John Wiley & Sons Inc, 2022. – 256 p.

Sadegh-Zadeh K. Handbook of Analytic Philosophy of Medicine / Kazem S-Z. – 2nd ed. – Dordrecht: Springer, 2018. – 1224 p.

б) additional:

Bretag T. A Research Agenda for Academic Integrity / Tracy Bretag. – Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd, 2020. – 224 p.

Frigg R. Models and theories: a philosophical inquiry /Roman Frigg. – N.-Y.: Routledge, 2022. – 496 p.

Løkse M. Strengthening teacher qualifications to prevent student plagiarism – presentation of an online course and discussion of a strategy / M. Løkse, M. Solberg // Plagiarism across Europe and Beyond – Conference Proceedings (June 10-12, 2015, Brno, Czech Republic). — p. 25-36.

ASSESSMENT

Current control is carried out at seminar classes in accordance with formulated tasks for each topic. When evaluating educational activities, preference is given to standardized control methods: oral survey, structured written works, discussions, role-playing games, reports. When mastering each topic for the current educational activity, the graduate student is given grades on a 4-point traditional scale. The current academic performance is calculated as the average current score, i.e. the arithmetic average of all grades received by the graduate student on a traditional scale, rounded to 2 (two) decimal places, for example 4.75.

Assessment of current discipline control:

The meaning of the “**excellent**” assessment: the graduate student shows special creative abilities, knows how to acquire knowledge independently, finds and processes the necessary information without the help of a professor, knows how to use the acquired knowledge and skills to solve problems, is able to produce innovative ways of solving problems, convincingly argues answers, independently reveals his own gifts and inclinations.

The meaning of the grade “**good**”: the graduate student has a good knowledge of the studied material, applies it in practice, solves exercises and problems in standard situations, and independently corrects the mistakes made, the number of which is insignificant.

The meaning of the grade “**satisfactory**”: the graduate student is able to master a significant part of the theoretical material, but mainly in a reproductive form, demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the main provisions, can analyze the educational material with the help of the professor, correct errors, among which there are a significant number of essential ones.

The meaning of the grade “**unsatisfactory**”: the graduate student has mastered the material at the level of individual fragments, which constitute a small part of the educational material.

There is no *final control* in this discipline. The study of the academic discipline ends with a credit. Credit will be given to post-graduate students and candidates who have not missed seminar classes or have completed missed classes and have an average grade of at least 3.00.

The obtained average grade for the discipline by multiplying it by 40 (the obtained grade is rounded to integers) is converted into a grade on a 200-point scale, which, in turn, is converted into a traditional grade on a 4-point scale.

Average grade	200-point scale grade	4-point scale grade
4,62–5,0	185–200	5
3,77–4,61	151–184	4
3,0–3,76	120–150	3

Independent work

Assessment of the independent work of graduate students and candidate, which is provided by the topic of the lesson along with the classroom work, is carried out during the current control of the topic in the corresponding classroom session.

COURSE POLICIES («rules of the game»)

Deadline and resit policy

The task must be completed on time according to the deadline. For late completion of the assignment, the graduate student receives an unsatisfactory grade. If the applicant for higher education was absent for some reason, then the retake is carried out within the time limits set by the professor in accordance with the “Regulations on the Organization of the Educational Process at ONMedU” (<https://onmedu.edu.ua/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/osvitnij-proces.pdf>). Resit is carried out in accordance with the approved schedule.

Academic integrity policy

The policy of the educational component is based on the principles of academic integrity (<https://onmedu.edu.ua/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/polozhennja-pro-dobrochesnist.pdf>) and is determined by the system of requirements that the teacher presents to the student when studying the educational component:

- ♦ independent performance of educational tasks, tasks of current and final control of learning results (for persons with special educational needs, this requirement is applied taking into account their individual needs and capabilities);
- ♦ references to sources of information in the case of using ideas, developments, statements, information.

Policies concerning attendance and tardiness

To obtain at least a satisfactory assessment, attendance and work in the classroom (lectures and seminars) is mandatory. Graduate students are allowed to be late no more than 10 minutes.

Mobile devices

It is permissible to use mobile devices during the lesson with the teacher's permission.

Behavior in the auditorium or lecture hall

While in the classroom, the following values should be cultivated: respect for colleagues; tolerance for others; receptivity and impartiality; argumentation of agreement or disagreement with the opinion of other participants in the discussion; respect for the dignity of the personality of the opponent/s during communication; observance of the ethics of academic relations.