

MCS Selective Implications of Antenatal Testing

Catalog Description: The goal of this course is to familiarize the student with the common antenatal screening tests which are offered to prenatal patients and to identify their many implications for women and society. A field trip will be assigned for the purpose of observing an actual antenatal test including the patient/provider communication and interactions that result.

Instructor



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Syllabus

Detailed Description: This course was developed in an effort to identify and discuss the social, economic, psychological and ethical impact of antenatal testing for women, families, care providers and society. A clear understanding of the nature and scope, risks, benefits and costs of commonly offered tests may help to enhance the skills of future care providers in their counseling of prenatal patients. A field trip experience is planned to allow the students to observe and reflect upon patient/provider interactions in an effort to inform their own communication skills. Finally, blinded interviews with actual patients (done via phone conference call) is arranged to share the personal reactions/emotions they experienced during their antenatal testing period.

Time and Location

Meetings/class sessions will be held in the HSC Level 9 (room TBA) from 1p-3p for four sessions. This class also requires a field trip to either 6 Technology Drive (Setauket) office or 4975 Sunrise Hwy (Bohemia) office which will take the place of one class session.

Educational Objectives

At the conclusion of this course you will have the ability to:

1. Discuss the common antenatal screening tests offered to prenatal patients.
2. Develop and defend an opinion on the psychological, economic and ethical impact these have on patients, care providers and society.

Topics and Dates

Week 1- Introduction to Antenatal Testing; make assignments; schedule field trips and discuss expectations/ dress code; define objectives and evaluations. "Conference call" with actual patients during which students may interview/ask questions to patients regarding their personal experiences in antenatal testing situations.

Week 2- Student presentations/discussions

Week 3 – Field trip or "off" if field trip completed during another week

Week 4 –Continue student presentations/ discussions. Summary/wrap up.

Evaluation

1. Students will be evaluated on in class presentations regarding specific antenatal tests and the completion of a field trip and reaction assignment (70%), as well as on a written response (essay) they submit to a single essay question (30%).
2. On time attendance at all sessions, as well as the field trip, are expected.
3. Active participation in class discussions is expected.

Class Size

Minimum 5

Maximum 8