HLT520 • Clinical Data Ethics

School of Health & Human Sciences • Graduate • 6 ECTS

Overview

Examine ethics and governance for clinical data projects: consent, minimization, risk tiers, retention, and access controls. Students produce documentation and decision logs, and learn to evaluate tradeoffs between utility, safety, and accountability.

LOGISTICS

Credits: 6 ECTS
Level: Graduate
School: School of Health & Human Sciences
Prerequisites: None listed
Tags: health, ethics, governance
Meeting time: Weekly seminar + governance clinic
Instruction mode: Ethics as operations: consent, minimization, and review

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:
- Classify data projects by risk tier and select appropriate governance
- Design consent and minimization strategies for health data workflows
- Write review-ready documentation for ethics and compliance
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ASSESSMENT

Components
- Coursework: 60%
- Final project: 40%

Students are assessed on case analyses, governance documents, and a final ethics pack.
Strong work is specific: what data, what risk, what controls, what retention.

WEEKLY PLAN

Schedule
Week 1: Week 1
  - Consent and context: what users believe vs what systems do
Week 2: Week 2
  - Minimization: schema choices and redaction strategies
Week 3: Week 3
  - Risk tiers: threat modeling for clinical data
Week 4: Week 4
  - Governance: access controls, audit logs, and review processes

Extended outline
- Consent and context: what users believe vs what systems do
- Minimization: schema choices and redaction strategies
- Risk tiers: threat modeling for clinical data
- Governance: access controls, audit logs, and review processes
- Publishing: aggregation, disclosure risk, and limitations
- Final: ethics + governance pack for a realistic project

POLICIES & RESOURCES

- No real PHI: use synthetic or provided de-identified datasets.
- Documentation must be audit-friendly and reproducible.
- Academic integrity: cite frameworks and regulations used.

Suggested resources
- Risk tier worksheet
- Governance checklist (access, audits, retention)
- Disclosure risk notes for publication