

NS2015
Exam Revision
Second Year
First Semester

Common Law = Judgements made by courts – decreed by the courts, follows doctrine of precedent and follows court hierarchy.

Court Hierarchy =

1. High Court of Australia (HIGHEST)
2. Court of Appeal
3. Supreme Court of QLD
4. District Court
5. Local Magistrates Court and Tribunals

Doctrine of Precedent = Common law principle which states decisions made in higher courts in a hierarchy are binding on lower courts in the same hierarchy when material facts are similar

Separation of Power =

1. Legislative
2. Executive
3. Judiciary

Civil Law = Codes of behavior related to business and contractual relationships between groups and individuals (suing someone/payout)

Criminal Law = Law concerned with offenses committed against society and the social order. Punishment by state

Deontology = Approach to ethics that judges the morality of an action based on the action's adherence to rules. Described as duty or obligation, because rules 'binds you to your duty'. Duty of position is the basis of all ethical/moral value.

Teleology = Rightness or wrongness of an action/decision is based on the consequences of performing an act. Moral value of an action/decision depends on the consequences.

Virtue Ethics = Emphasises the role of one's character and the virtues one's character embodies for determining ethical behaviours.

A good habit that enables a person to act according to right reason, enlightened by faith, and to do so with relative ease, and with perseverance, despite obstacles.

Principles of Ethics =

1. Autonomy – Free will, right to have decision making in patient's own care.
2. Beneficence – Free will, right to have decision making in patient's own care.
3. Non-maleficence – The requirement to do no harm.
In one's actions, one should strive for the prevention of harmful consequences.
4. Veracity - Truth-telling. Essential in nurse-patient relationships. Central to trust.