

iETHICS

Implementation of an Integrated Ethics Curriculum in the Health and Human Service Programs at UBC

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Introduction

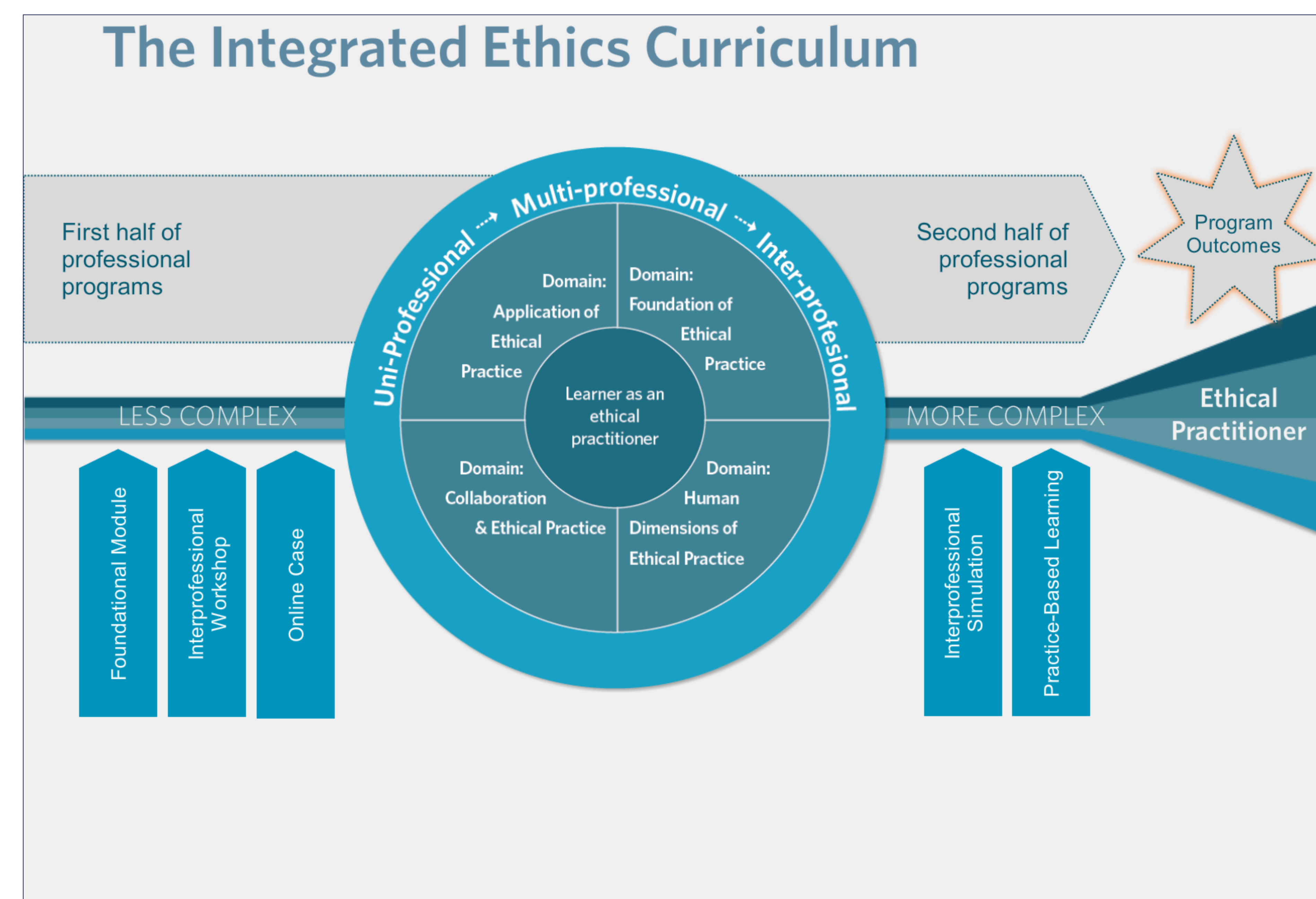
In collaboration with the health and human service programs at UBC, the Office of the Vice-Provost Health (formerly the College of Health Disciplines) has developed an integrated curricular approach to common learning. This marks the first step in moving towards an integrated approach to health professional education. The topic chosen for the exemplar of an integrated curriculum was ethical practice, as it resonates across all professions and areas of practice, and is critical in today's world of complex, often technology enhanced, healthcare.

Curriculum Development

- ✓ Brought together educators, learners, and patients/clients to develop a prototype of an integrated curriculum
- ✓ Developed principles that would meet the institutional needs as well as the needs of the integrated curriculum
- ✓ Identified the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours of an ethical practitioner, which formed the basis of the competency domains
- ✓ Developed a curricula model, exit competencies, and learning objectives
- ✓ Created program milestones and divided them into quartiles to accommodate integration across programs of different lengths
- ✓ Used a flexible approach to learning
- ✓ Considered the classroom to practice continuum that exists within health professional programs
- ✓ Incorporated an iterative developmental process, whereby each component of the program was piloted during the development of subsequent components in order to inform further refinement and development
- ✓ Developed robust facilitator resources, supports and training to ensure consistent delivery of face-to-face components

Curriculum Overview

The integrated ethics curriculum is designed to ensure students in the health and human service professions at UBC become ethical practitioners. Throughout the course of their program, students engage in a series of learning experiences that span the classroom to practice setting, increasing in complexity.



Integration of the Curriculum

- ✓ Engaged in regular consultation with the UBC Health Executive and program partners
- ✓ Consulted health and human service program representatives to facilitate a flexible approach that would meet the unique needs of each program
- ✓ Used technology to facilitate a flexible delivery approach where possible
- ✓ Identified common times for interprofessional components of the program
- ✓ Identified opportunities for faculty development and trained facilitators around interprofessional approaches to learning and ethics content
- ✓ Suggested approaches for additional learning and assessment to be integrated by programs

The curriculum has been successfully integrated across the following programs:

- ✓ Audiology
- ✓ Dental Hygiene
- ✓ Dentistry
- ✓ Dietetics
- ✓ Medicine
- ✓ Midwifery
- ✓ Nursing
- ✓ Pharmacy
- ✓ Physical Therapy
- ✓ Occupational Therapy
- ✓ Social Work
- ✓ Speech Language Pathology

iEthics Outcomes

- ✓ Supports learning that is unique to each profession
- ✓ Seeks economies of scale for foundational knowledge common to all programs through technology
- ✓ Creates relevant opportunities for interprofessional learning related to a complex areas of healthcare
- ✓ Has become part of students' program requirements, replacing or supplementing current learning related to ethical practice
- ✓ Is serving as an exemplar for other integrated curricula (E.g. e-Health; Indigenous Cultural Awareness)

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