

PHILOSOPHY 112
SECTION T1

INSTRUCTOR: COLENA SESANKER
MEETING TIMES: MWF 11:00-11:50 KTRCC D221
CONTACT INFO: csesanker@trcc.commnet.edu

TEXT: BIOETHICS IN A CULTURAL CONTEXT, VINCENT BARRY ISBN# 978-0-495-81408-5 +
VARIOUS PROVIDED TEXTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to a number of issues in bioethics through the lens of human rights. After first introducing basic concepts in human rights, ethics, and religion that are important to bioethics, we will look at some contemporary issues in bioethics including: informed consent and privacy, ownership of tissues and DNA, human embryonic stem cell research, reproductive rights and technologies, human enhancement, and race and genetics.

OBJECTIVES:

To further refine of your own world view.

To develop a sense of the moral issues at stake in these areas of science and technology, and their implications for human dignity, worth, and personhood, understood in a cross-cultural sense

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

3 in-class position papers (10% each), 1 short paper (15%) participation including sporadic quizzes and written responses (10%), Midterm Exam (20%), Final exam (25%)

Short paper checkpoints: Week 6- Paper topic and thesis due.
Week 10- Submit outline for approval
Week 14- Paper due.

MISSED ASSIGNMENTS:

If there are special circumstances which make it necessary for a student to make up an assignment at a time other than the date scheduled, please be sure to contact me by email or in person *before* the missed assignment so that special arrangements can be made. Make-up writing assignments must be completed within a week of the originally scheduled date. A doctor's note or excuse of equivalent importance must be provided in order to be allowed a make-up exam.

SCHEDULE (subject to further modification)

	Welcome and Intro to course
Week 1: Aug 26-30: Reading: Chapters 1-4 of text 2 Handouts from the President's council on Bioethics: Dan Dennett and Adam Schulman	Introduction to Human Rights and History and scope of Bioethics
Week 2: Sept 2-6 (No class Monday) Handouts: selections from Mill and Kant	Human Rights and Scope of Bioethics continued...
Week 3: Sept 9-13 Handouts	Ethical Theory: Natural Law and Utilitarian
Week 4: Sept 16-20 Handouts	Ethical Theory: Kantian and Social Contract
Week 5: Sept 23-27 Handouts	Ethical Theory: Virtue and Feminist Theory
	In Class Writing 1
WEEK 6: Sept 30-Oct 4 Chapters 5,6&7 of text Handouts: Nuremberg, Tuskegee and Belmont Report	Informed Consent and Autonomy
WEEK 7: Oct 14-18(No class Monday)	Informed Consent and Autonomy cont'd...Problems and Dilemmas

WEEK 8: Oct 21-25

MIDTERM OCT 17th

WEEK 9: Oct 28- Nov 1
Chapters 8,9&10 of text
Handouts

Abortion and Conceptual Matters at the Beginning of life

WEEK 10: Nov 4-8
Chapters 11,12,15,16 of text

Assisted Reproduction and Stem Cell Research

In Class Writing 2

WEEK 11: Nov 11-15 (No class Monday)
Chapters 17, 18& 19 of text

Conceptual Issues concerning Death

WEEK 12: Nov 18-22
Chapters 20&21 of text

Assisted Death

WEEK 13: Nov 25-29 **Thanksgiving week.** No classes. College closed 29th

WEEK 14: Dec 2-6

Assisted Death Continued

In Class Writing 3

WEEK 15: Dec 9-13
Chapter 22 and various handouts

The Right to Healthcare

DECEMBER 17th: FINAL EXAM DUE