

Course Syllabus

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PHI 320/BIO 312: Bioethics (Online)

Fall A 2021 - Sections 75161, 79937 and 89003

Course and Faculty Information

Course Description: Critical examination of moral questions arising in biomedical contexts, particularly due to new technologies and scientific discoveries. GS:HU

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Dr. Sandra Woien

Email: sandra.woien@asu.edu

Office Hours: Go to Canvas Calendar and click "Find Appointment"

Teaching Assistant: Aubrial Harrington

Email: amharr42@asu.edu

Office Hours: Mondays from 2:30-3:30 pm, Wednesdays from 11:30 to 12:30 pm, and by appointment

Required Materials

- **Pence, Gregory. 2021. Medical Ethics: Accounts of Ground-Breaking Cases, 9th Edition.**

There is a CUSTOM TEXT for this course that contains the selected chapters required for the course. [You have the option to purchase a print or ebook version of the custom text.](#)

- Students are required to read/view all materials found within this Canvas course shell including, but not limited to, the announcements, learning objectives found within each module, assignment

instructions, grading rubrics, and so forth. These resources contain critical information, which will enable you to be successful in this course.

Technical Support

This is a fully online course, and it uses Canvas to deliver content. It can be accessed through MyASU at <http://my.asu.edu> (<http://my.asu.edu/>) or the Canvas home page at <https://myasucourses.asu.edu> (<https://myasucourses.asu.edu/>).

To monitor the status of campus networks and services, visit the System Health Portal at <http://syshealth.asu.edu/> (<http://syshealth.asu.edu/>).

Technical Support is offered 24/7, and all technical inquiries need to be directed to the help desk. Call toll-free at 1-855-278-5080.

Course Overview

The goal of this course is to provide students with a common language via the normative ethical theories to critically analyze a variety of bioethical issues. This class starts with an introduction to moral reasoning, the normative foundations of bioethics, and healthcare policy. After that groundwork has been laid, we move on to specific bioethical issues. In covering this material, we start at the beginning of life and then move through the human lifespan. Throughout this process, we will explore selected ethical dilemmas associated with healthcare and biomedical research such as reproductive technologies, issues in human and animal research, and physician assisted dying. Through the readings, discussions, and various assessments, this course will provide the background needed to evaluate such ethical issues including the interactions that occur between patients and health care providers and between medical research and society.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast various ethical theories and principles and other methodologies that influence reasoning and the analysis of ethical dilemmas.
2. Use the major normative ethical theories along with the principles of bioethics and empirical research to justify positions on a variety of bioethical issues.
3. Apply an ethical decision-making model to a case analysis.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking skills in the analysis of data, claims, theories, and arguments.
5. Critically analyze both supporting and opposing arguments on a variety of bioethical issues.
6. Compose weekly discussion posts that critically assess current bioethical issues and make connections between these issues and the course content including the assigned readings, ethical theories, and outside research.

Course Assessments and Grading Scale

1. The syllabus quiz is worth 3 points. It may be found in the Starting module and must be completed flawlessly before accessing the rest of the class materials.
2. One midterm and one final exam are required. The midterm is worth 50 and the final 60 for a combined total of 110 points. The exams will be completed online with Honorlock, and their links may be found within the associated lesson folder once they become available. Each exam is available for 72 hours.
3. One case analysis paper is required. It is broken into two parts, and is worth a total of 47 points.
4. One reflection paper is required. It is worth 30 points.
5. The class discussions will take place in the Yellowdig (YD) platform, and are worth a total of 60 points. You will be required to post your response to the prompt provided and respond to your classmates' before the end of each week. Points are awarded by activity, but a limited number can only be earned each week to ensure weekly participation. By the end of the course, you will have accumulated a total score that will translate to Canvas via a percentage. The highest percentage is 100%, which translates to the full 60 points. (**Canvas points are allocated based on Yellowdig percentages.**) The specific instructions for each discussion entry may be found in their respective modules.

A student's grade is based on 250 possible points for this course. **Do note that the below grading scale is firm and preset within Canvas, so borderline grades, even within one or two points, are not manually changed.** The grading scale is as follows:

Grade	Percentage	Points Range
A+	100% or greater	250 or more
A	99.9% - 94 %	249 - 235
A-	93.9% - 90%	234 - 225
B+	89.9% - 87%	224 - 217.5
B	86.9% - 84%	217 - 210
B-	83.9% - 80%	209 - 200
C+	79.9% - 76%	199 - 190
C	75.9% - 70%	189 - 175
D	69.9% - 60%	174 - 150
E	59.9% - 0%	149 - 0