

PHIL 242A Introduction to Medical Ethics

Lectures: Tue & Thu, 9.00-10.20am KNE 220

Lecturer:
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Office Hours:
Tue 1.00-3.00pm
389 Savery Hall

AA & AC QSI:
Melanie Tate
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Mon 3.30-4.30pm & Wed 12.00-1.00pm
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TBC

i. Introduction

Who should decide what is best for the patient? How should we encourage organ donation? How should we distribute scarce health care resources fairly? Health care workers, such as physicians and nurses, will be confronted by moral challenges in the day-to-day course of their professional practice. This course provides an introduction to medical ethics aimed at developing students' abilities to recognize and assess moral conflicts pertinent to clinical practice. The course also introduces students to the wider context in which clinical decision-making is made and which influences practice, such as the structure of the health care system. Topics covered in the course include the right of patients to refuse treatment, physician-assisted suicide, discrimination and implicit racism, and the Affordable Care Act.

Learning objectives:

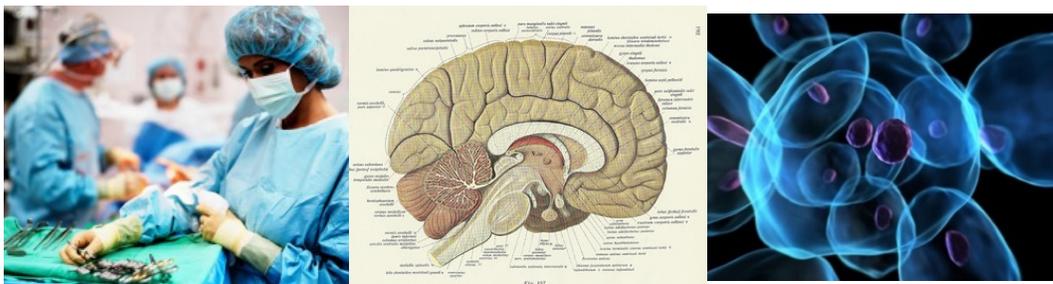
Students who have successfully completed the course will be able to:

1. Identify, distinguish and evaluate a range of significant conceptual and ethical concerns in the fields of medical ethics and health care ethics;
2. Critically analyze a range of moral conflicts relevant to medical care;
3. Summarize the central thesis of philosophical arguments clearly and concisely;
4. Write a coherent essay constructed around the argument for a central thesis.

ii. Class expectations & environment

We expect all students to read the required papers in advance, to complete any homework assigned, to attend lectures and quiz sections, to bring clickers and readings to class, to participate as required, to treat others' views with respect, and to complete all the assignments. The course is an opportunity to discuss, assess and play around with ideas in an open, honest and mutually respectful environment.

We expect all students to practice academic honesty, which includes using *only* your own clickers and not plagiarizing. Dishonesty in class participation, assignments or the exam will lead to grade penalization and may lead to disciplinary action.



iii. Overview of the course

Week 1: Introduction

Introduction to the course, the role of philosophy & moral theory

Mar 29: Beauchamp & Walters

Mar 31: Elliott (Ch. 12, Holland); Walsh (Ashcroft et al.)

Weeks 2-6: Clinical Ethics

The selection & enhancement of offspring

Apr 5: Parens & Asch, and Savulescu (Chs 5 & 6, Holland)

Apr 7: Robertson, and Sandel (Chs. 7 & 8, Holland)

Apr 8: Assignment 1 due

Consent, autonomy & the right to refuse treatment

Apr 12: Lidz et al, Childress, and Veatch (Chs 30 – 32, Holland)

Apr 14: O'Neill, and Whitney (Chs 34 & 35, Holland)

Apr 18: Assignment 2 due

Apr 19: Burt & Cowart; Shahidi et al., and Akabayashi & Slingsby

Apr 21: Kennett (from Steinbock), McMillan, and Matravers (Ashcroft et al.)

Acquiring organs for transplant

Apr 26: Kass, Radcliffe-Richards et al., Cohen, and Veatch & Pitt (Chs 20-23, Holland)

Apr 28: Beecham, Wilkinson, Bernat, and Truog & Miller (Chs 25-28, Holland)

Apr 29: Assignment 3 due

Physician-assisted suicide

May 3: Open Letter, Dworkin et al, Safranek, and Dieterle (Chs 56-59, Holland)

May 4: Film showing *A Separation*; Quiz sections on May 4 cancelled in lieu of film showing

May 5: Thomson (Ch 60, Holland); Van Delden & Battin (Green et al.)

Weeks 7-10: Clinical Ethics in Context

Film - *A Separation* (2011, Iran)

May 10: Sachedina, and Lindemann; Discussion of the film - *A Separation*

Social justice, health care systems & health disparities

May 12: Daniels (Ch 47, Holland) and Emanuel

May 15: Assignment 4 due

May 17 : Marchand et al.

Social structure & the clinic as culture

May 19: (Discrimination and implicit bias): Institute of Medicine report - excerpts

May 24: (Incentives): Elliott, and Allen et al.

May 26: (Moral distress and moral conflict) Fourie

Cross-cultural bioethics:

May 31: Turner, and Macklin

Jun 2: Macklin CNTD and wrap-up

Final Exam: Jun 8: 10.30-12.20, KNE 220

Required throughout:

1. *Arguing about Bioethics* (2012)
Stephen Holland (ed.). Routledge

2. *TurningPoint* Clicker

On Course Reserve (max 24hrs):

A Separation (Iran 2011): 123 mins

In Farsi & French w English subtitles

PG

iv. Assignments & grading – summary

The final grade for the course will be made up of three parts – writing, the exam and participation.

I. Writing (50%):

- ✚ Apr 8 Assignment 1:
Central thesis and summary of argument (1 page – or min 250 words): 20 points; 5%
- ✚ Apr 18 Assignment 2:
Objection to argument and response to objection (1 page – or min 250 words): 20 points; 5%
- ✚ Apr 29 Assignment 3:
Central thesis, summary of argument, objection to argument and response to objection (3 pages, not including footnotes and bibliography): 60 points; 15%
- ✚ May 15 Assignment 4:
Full paper (6 pages, not including footnotes and bibliography): 100 points; 25%

2. Exam (30%):

- ✚ June 8:
Final exam: 120 points; 30%

3. Participation (20%):

- ✚ Throughout the quarter:
Class Participation: 40 points; 10%
- ✚ Throughout the quarter:
Section Participation: 40 points; 10%

Total points: 400

Final grade: 400/100

(We reserve the right to adjust the final grade)

Passing grade: In order to pass the course your final total grade must be a pass (0.7) AND you must receive a pass (0.7) for each of the three parts that make up your grade – writing, the exam and participation.

For more details on assignments and grading for this course, please refer to the document 'Assignments & Grading' available on Canvas.

v. Additional student information

For students with disabilities, you can request information or disability accommodation through the Disabled Students Services (Seattle campus) at (206) 543-8924/V, (206) 543-8925/TTY, (206) 616-8379/Fax, or e-mail at uwdss@u.washington.edu.

This course is run according to the UW Department of Philosophy's policies. You must read the summary of our policies, on the last two pages of this document (pgs. 4-5).

For information on safety on campus for all students, please view the UW Safe Campus website:

<http://www.washington.edu/safecampus/>.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS*

COURSES, GRADING, ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as the use of creations, ideas or words of publicly available work without formally acknowledging the author or source through appropriate use of quotation marks, references, and the like. Plagiarizing is presenting someone else's work as one's own original work or thought. This constitutes plagiarism whether it is intentional or unintentional. The University of Washington takes plagiarism very seriously. Plagiarism may lead to disciplinary action by the University against the student who submitted the work. Any student who is uncertain whether his or her use of the work of others constitutes plagiarism should consult the course instructor for guidance before formally submitting the course work involved.

(Sources: UW Graduate School Style Manual; UW Bothell Catalog; UW Student Conduct Code)

Incompletes

An incomplete is given only when the student has been in attendance and has done satisfactory work until within two weeks of the end of the quarter and has furnished proof satisfactory to the instructor that the work cannot be completed because of illness or other circumstances beyond the student's control.

(Source: UW General Catalog Online, "Student Guide/Grading")

Grade Appeal Procedure

A student who believes he or she has been improperly graded must first discuss the matter with the instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the instructor's explanation, the student may submit a written appeal to the chair of the Department of Philosophy with a copy of the appeal also sent to the instructor. The chair consults with the instructor to ensure that the evaluation of the student's performance has not been arbitrary or capricious. Should the chair believe the instructor's conduct to be arbitrary or capricious and the instructor declines to revise the grade, the chair, with the approval of the voting members of his or her faculty, shall appoint an appropriate member, or members, of the faculty of the Department of Philosophy to evaluate the performance of the student and assign a grade. The Dean and Provost should be informed of this action. Once a student submits a written appeal, this document and all subsequent actions on this appeal are recorded in written form for deposit in a School file.

(Source: UW General Catalog Online, "Student Guide/Grading")

Concerns about a Course, an Instructor, or a Teaching Assistant

If you have any concerns about a Philosophy course or your instructor, please see the instructor about these concerns as soon as possible. If you are not comfortable talking with the instructor or not satisfied with the response that you receive, you may contact the chair of the program offering the course (names available from the Department of Philosophy, 361 Savery Hall).

If you have any concerns about a teaching assistant, please see the teaching assistant about these concerns as soon as possible. If you are not comfortable talking with the teaching assistant or not satisfied with the response that you receive, you may contact the instructor in charge of the course. If you are still not satisfied with the response that you receive, you may contact the chair of the program offering the course (names available from the Department of Philosophy, 361 Savery Hall), or the Graduate School at G-1 Communications Building (543-5900).

** Adapted from material prepared by the UW Department of History and used with permission.*

For your reference, these procedures are posted on a Philosophy bulletin board outside the Department of Philosophy main office on the 3rd floor of Savery Hall.

POLICIES, RULES, RESOURCES

Equal Opportunity

The University of Washington reaffirms its policy of equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran in accordance with University of Washington policy and applicable federal and state statutes and regulations.

Disability Accommodation

The University of Washington is committed to providing access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. For information or to request disability accommodation contact: Disabled Students Services (Seattle campus) at (206) 543-8924/V, (206) 543-8925/TTY, (206) 616-8379/Fax, or e-mail at uwdss@u.washington.edu; Bothell Student Affairs at (425) 352-5000/V; (425) 352-5303/TTY, (425) 352-5335/Fax, or e-mail at uwbothel@u.washington.edu; Tacoma Student Services at (253) 552-4000/V, (253) 552-4413/TTY, (253) 552-4414/Fax.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is defined as the use of one's authority or power, either explicitly or implicitly, to coerce another into unwanted sexual relations or to punish another for his or her refusal, or as the creation by a member of the University community of an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or educational environment through verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

If you believe that you are being harassed, seek help—the earlier the better. You may speak with your instructor, your teaching assistant, the undergraduate advisor (363 Savery Hall), graduate program assistant (366 Savery Hall), or the chair of the Philosophy Department (364 Savery Hall). In addition, you should be aware that the University has designated special people to help you. They are: University Ombudsman and Ombudsman for Sexual Harassment (for complaints involving faculty members and teaching assistants) Susan Neff, 301 Student Union (HUB), 543-6028; and the University Complaint Investigation and Resolution Office, 616-2028.

(Sources: UW Graduate School, CIDR, Office of the President)

Office of Scholarly Integrity

The Office of Scholarly Integrity is housed in the Office of the Vice-Provost. The Office of Scholarly Integrity assumes responsibility for investigating and resolving allegations of scientific and scholarly misconduct by faculty, students, and staff of the University of Washington. The Office of Scholarly Integrity coordinates, in consultation and cooperation with the Schools and Colleges, inquiries and investigations into allegations of scientific and scholarly misconduct. The Office of Scholarly Integrity is responsible for compliance with reporting requirements established by various Federal and other funding agencies in matters of scientific or scholarly misconduct. The Office of Scholarly Integrity maintains all records resulting from inquiries and investigations of such allegations. University rules (Handbook, Vol. II, Section 25-51, Executive Order #61) define scientific and scholarly misconduct to include the following forms of inappropriate activities: intentional misrepresentation of credentials; falsification of data; plagiarism; abuse of confidentiality; deliberate violation of regulations applicable to research. Students can report cases of scientific or scholarly misconduct either to the Office of Scholarly Integrity, to their faculty adviser, or the department chair. The student should report such problems to whomever he or she feels most comfortable.

(Sources: UW web page (<http://www.grad.washington.edu/OSI/osi.htm>); minutes of Grad School Executive Staff and Division Heads meeting, 7/23/98)