PHIL 242 Introduction to Medical Ethics  
Lectures: Tue & Thu, 1.00-2.20pm JHN 075

Lecturer: Carina Fourie. fourie@uw.edu. Office Hours: Wed 1.00-3.00pm; Savery Hall, 389

This course provides a philosophical introduction to medical ethics aimed at developing students' abilities to recognize and assess moral conflicts and challenges pertinent to clinical practice. It also provides an introduction to the wider social context in which clinical decisions are made, such as the health care system and the social determinants of health. Additionally, students will learn how to write philosophical papers about medical ethics. Topics covered include the right of patients to refuse treatment, the acquisition of organs for transplant, the implicit biases of health care professionals, and the Affordable Care and Patient Protection Act.

Learning objectives:
Students who have successfully completed the course will be able to:
1. Identify, distinguish and evaluate significant conceptual and ethical concerns in the fields of medicine and health care;
2. Identify and summarize the central thesis of philosophical arguments clearly and concisely;
3. Write a philosophical essay constructed around the argument for a central thesis.

1. Class expectations & environment

Students are required to:
✓ read papers in advance of lectures and quiz sections,
✓ complete homework,
✓ attend lectures and quiz sections,
✓ bring readings to lectures and quiz sections
✓ bring devices for PollEverywhere to lecture,
✓ participate in lectures and quiz sections,
✓ practice academic honesty,
✓ treat others' views with respect,
✓ keep up to date with materials, messages, announcements, deadlines, and changes on Canvas
✓ and, complete all the assignments.

The classroom environment will be open, honest and mutually respectful. If you have any concerns about the class environment, please let your lecturer or QSI know.

Students must practice academic honesty. Dishonesty in participation, assignments or the exam will lead to grade penalization and may lead to disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes accessing PollEverywhere remotely.
2. Assignments & grading – summary

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

1. Writing (50%): Grading will be anonymous
   - Apr 7 Assignment 1: Central thesis & summary of argument (min 250 words/max 350): 5%
   - Apr 18 Assignment 2: Objection & response (min 250/max 350): 5%
   - Apr 29 Assignment 3: Central thesis, summary of argument, objection & response to objection (min 750 /max 1000): 15%
   - May 15 Assignment 4: Full paper (min 1200/ max 1600): 25%

2. Exam (30%): Grading will be anonymous
   - June 8: Final exam: 30%

3. Participation (20%):
   - Throughout the quarter:
     - Class Participation: 10%
   - Throughout the quarter:
     - Section Participation: 10%

Points will be converted to a grade on the 4.0 scale (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.

3. Additional Information & Resources

- 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 uwds@u.washington.edu. If you have reason to think that you will need disabilities accommodation, please chat to the lecturer ASAP.
- For concerns you may have about health and well-being, please contact the Wellness Center, http://depts.washington.edu/livewell/student-care/ or Hall Mental Health: http://depts.washington.edu/hhpccweb/project/mental-health-clinic/
- For undocumented students, resources are available here: http://www.washington.edu/admissions/undocumented/
- For information on safety on campus, please view the UW Safe Campus website: http://www.washington.edu/safecampus/
- For technical questions about Canvas and PollEverywhere, please contact UW IT: help@uw.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).
4. Overview & readings

Week 1: Introduction
- Introduction to the course, the role of philosophy & moral theory
  Mar 27: Syllabus; Vaughn
  Mar 29: Vaughn; Wolff

Weeks 2-6: Clinical Ethics
- The selection & enhancement of offspring
  Apr 3: Parens & Asch; Savulescu (Chs 5 & 6, Holland)
  Apr 5: Robertson (Ch 7, Holland)

Apr 7: Assignment 1 due
- Informed consent
  Apr 10: Lidz et al; Childress, (Chs 30 & 31, Holland)
  Apr 12: O’Neill (Ch 34, Holland)
  Apr 13: Symposium, extra credit opportunity
- Relational autonomy & the role of the family in decision-making
  Apr 17: Akabayashi & Slingsby; McKenzie

Apr 18: Assignment 2 due
- Shared decision-making, refusing treatment & compulsory treatment
  Apr 19: Burt & Cowart; Whitney (Ch 35, Holland)
  Apr 24: McMillan; Powers
- Acquiring organs for transplant
  Apr 26: Radcliffe-Richards et al; Spital (Chs 21 & 24, Holland)

Apr 29: Assignment 3 due
- When are you dead?
  May 1: Bernat; Truog & Miller (Chs 27 & 28, Holland); The New Yorker article
- Physician-assisted suicide
  May 3: Dieterle; Thomson (Chs 59 & 60, Holland)

Weeks 7-10: Clinical Ethics in Context
- Access to healthcare & the social determinants of health
  May 8: Desmond; Roberts
  May 10: Gaffhey & McCormick
  May 15: Daniels (Ch 47, Holland)

May 15: Assignment 4 due
- Bias, discrimination & incentives in the clinic
  May 17: Bauer et al; Bowen Matthew
  May 22: Elliott
  May 24: Exam Preparation
- Cross-cultural bioethics
  May 29: Macklin
  May 31: Orentlicher (Ch 52, Holland) and wrap-up

Final Exam: Friday, June 8, 2018, 2.30-4.20pm, JHN 075

Required throughout:
1. Arguing about Bioethics (2012)
   Stephen Holland (ed.). Routledge
2. Device for Poll Everywhere (e.g. smartphone; tablet)
   Arguing about Bioethics is available from the UW Bookstore. A copy will also be available on 4-hour reserve at the Odegaard Library.

If you do not have access to a device for Poll Everywhere, please borrow one from UW Student Technology Loan: https://stlp.uw.edu/#/
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.
(Source: 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
debutes 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.

(Source: 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.

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