

Bioethics PHIL 2408

Monday 6:05-8:55 pm

Professor Vida Panitch

vida.panitch@carleton.ca

Office: Paterson Hall 3A55

Office Hours: Tuesday 12:30-2:00 pm

Course Description:

This course introduces students to central debates in medical ethics. It begins with an exploration of the philosophical principles that inform bioethical reasoning, and proceeds to address the topics of public health care, research on human subjects, physician assisted death, reproductive technology, and genetic enhancement.

Course Readings:

Readings for this course are as indicated in the course schedule. Some are available as PDF files on CU Learn, others are linked directly from the schedule below, and the rest can be found in the library's online journal catalogue by searching the indicated citations.

Course Evaluation:

Midterm #1: worth 25% to be held in class on October 6 from 6:05-7:20 pm.

Midterm #2: worth 30% to be held in class on November 24 from 6:05-7:20 pm.

Final Take Home Exam: worth 45% due (in hard copy) by the last day of the December exam period.

Class Organization:

Weekly classes will be organized as follows:

6:05-7:20 Lecture (or exam on the relevant days)

7:20-7:35 Break

7:35-8:20 Lecture

8:20-8:30 Break

8:30-8:55 Informal Discussion (optional)

Course Schedule:

September 8: Introduction to the Course

- Introduction to bioethical problems, principles, and approaches (no reading)

September 15: Public Health Care

- Norman Daniels, "Health Care Needs and Distributive Justice," *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 10.2 (1981):146-179
- Gopal Sreenivasan, "Health Care and Equality of Opportunity," *Hastings Centre Report* 37.2 (2007): 21-31

September 22: Public Health Care and Global Health

- Joseph Heath, "Health Care as a Commodity," PDF on CU Learn.
- Alexander Cappelin and Ole Norheim, "Responsibility in Health Care: A Liberal Egalitarian Approach," *Journal of Medical Ethics* 31.8 (2005): 476-480
- Thomas Pogge, "Responsibilities for Poverty Related Illness," *Ethics and International Affairs* 16.2 (2002): 71-79

September 29: Global Health and The Organ Trade

- Janet Radcliffe-Richards et al., "The Case for Allowing Kidney Sales," *Lancet* 351.9120 (1998): 1950-52
- Stephen Wilkinson, "Bodily Integrity and the Sale of Human Organs," *Journal of Medical Ethics* 22.6 (1996): 334-339
- Screening of *Tales from the Organ Trade* (2012)

October 6: Research Ethics

- **Midterm Exam #1 - in Class (6:05-7:25)**
- The Nuremburg Code <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/archive/nurcode.html>
- Allan Brandt, "Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study," *Hastings Center Report* 8.6 (1978): 21-28

October 13: No Class - Thanksgiving

October 20: Global Research Ethics

- Peter Lurie and Sydney Wolf, "Unethical Trials of Intervention to Reduce Perinatal Transmission of HIV in Developing Countries," *New England Journal of Medicine* 337.12 (1997): 853-856
- Robert Crouch and John Arras, "AZT Trials and Tribulations," *Hastings Center Report* 28.6 (1998): 26-34
- Maged El Satouhy and Ezekiel Emanuel et al., "Moral Standards for Research in Developing Countries," *Hastings Center Report* 34.3 (2004): 17-28

October 27: No Class - Reading Break

November 3: Physician Assisted Death

- Judith Jarvis Thomson, "Physician Assisted Suicide: Two Moral Arguments," *Ethics* 109.3 (1999): 497-518
- Dan Brock: "Voluntary Active Euthanasia." *Hastings Centre Report* 22.2 (1992): 10-21

November 10: Physician Assisted Death

- Dan Brock and Allan Buchanan, "Deciding for Others." PDF on CU Learn.
- George Annas, "'Culture of Life:' Politics at the Bedside: The Case of Terri Schiavo," *New England Journal of Medicine* 352.16 (Apr. 2005): 1710-1715
- Screening of *How to Die in Oregon* (2011)

November 17: Abortion and Moral Status

- Marry Anne Warren, "On the Moral and Legal Status of Abortion," *The Monist* 57.1 (1973): 43-61
- Judith Jarvis Thomson, "A Defense of Abortion," *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 1.1 (1971): 47-66.

November 24: Stem Cell Research

- **Midterm Exam #2 – in Class (6:05-7:20)**
- Michael Sandel, "The Moral Logic of Stem Cell Research," *New England Journal of Medicine* 351.3 (2004): 207-209
- William FitzPatrick, "Surplus Embryos, Non Reproductive Cloning, and the Intend/Foresee Distinction," *Hastings Centre Report* 33.3 (2003): 29-36

December 1: Genetic Engineering and Enhancement

- Bonnie Steinbock, "Disability, Prenatal Testing and Selective Abortion," PDF on CU Learn.
- Julian Savulescu, "Procreative Beneficence: Why We Should Select the Best Children," *Bioethics* 15.5-6 (2002): 413-426

December 8: Treatment vs Enhancement

- Michael Sandel, "The Case Against Perfection," *The Atlantic* (April, 2004) <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2004/04/the-case-against-perfection/302927/>
- Norman Daniels, "Normal Functioning and the Treatment – Enhancement Distinction," *Cambridge Journal of Health Care Ethics* 9.3(2000): 309-322
- Course Review and Exam Discussion

NB: some minor changes may be made to this syllabus up until the first class on September 8.

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (2014-15)

Assignments:

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips
- must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box)
- must include the following:
 - student name
 - student number
 - course number and section
 - instructor's name
- The Philosophy Department does not accept assignments by FAX. You may send them by courier, if necessary.
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates in next column.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by **4:15** on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

Deferrals for Term Work:

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a final assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral of examination/assignment. For deferred examinations, you must apply within 5 working days after the scheduled date of your exam. To apply for deferral of a final assignment, you must apply within 5 working days of the last scheduled day of classes. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information.

Plagiarism:

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of 'plagiarism' as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. (Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations, section 14.3, or <http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv14/>)

Academic Accommodation:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The **Paul Menton Centre** for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam

requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your professor to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*) at <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Important Dates:

Sept. 4	Classes start (after Orientation events).
Sept. 17	Last day for registration and course changes in Fall and Fall/Winter courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from Fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 13	Thanksgiving Day – university closed.
Oct. 27-31	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 24	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Dec. 8	Last day of classes, Fall term. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for Fall term courses.
Dec. 8	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec. 9	No classes or examinations take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Dec. 10-21	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
Dec. 21	Take-home exams are due.
Jan. 5	Winter term classes begin.
Jan. 16	Last day for registration and course changes in Winter term classes.
Jan. 31	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter courses or winter portion of two-term courses.
Feb. 16-20	Winter Break, classes suspended.
Mar. 24	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Apr. 8	Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter term classes. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for Fall/Winter and Winter term courses.
Apr. 8	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr. 9-10	No classes or examinations take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Apr. 11-23	Final Examinations. Exams are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 23	Take-home exams are due.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A35 Paterson Hall www.carleton.ca/philosophy 520-2110
Registrar's Office:	300 Tory www.carleton.ca/registrar 520-3500
Student Academic Success Centre:	302 Tory www.carleton.ca/sasc 520-7850
Writing Tutorial Service:	4 th Floor, Library http://www1.carleton.ca/sasc/writing-tutorial-service/ 520-6632
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735