

**PHIL 2408 Bioethics
Carleton University**

Course Outline

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| Term: Summer 2022 | Office: N/A |
| Time: Mon & Wed 2:35-5:25 pm | Office hours: By appointment only |
| Location: Online | Phone: N/A |
| Instructor: Philippe-Antoine Hoyeck | Email: philippeantoin.hoyeck@carleton.ca |
| Teaching Assistant: TBA | Email: TBA |

Course Description

Ethical and political issues in medicine, public health, biotechnology, and the life sciences. Topics may include reproductive ethics, research on human subjects, animal research and treatment, justice and health care, physician-patient relationships, death and the end of life, and genetic engineering. Precludes additional credit for PHIL 3408. Prerequisite(s): a course in philosophy or second-year standing. Lectures three hours a week.

Learning Outcomes

This course introduces students to central debates in medical ethics with a particular emphasis on their clashing ethical, religious, and cultural underpinnings. The course is divided into three units. The first introduces students to the central secular and religious theories in normative ethics and to the way they have shaped the core principles of bioethics. The second unit addresses debates in applied ethics pertaining to medical procedures at the beginning of human life: abortion, assisted reproduction, and prenatal testing. The third and final unit addresses debates in applied ethics pertaining to healthcare at the end of human life: medical assistance in dying and rationing of healthcare for the terminally ill.

Course Materials

All readings for this course are available in the course textbook, *Bioethics in a Cultural Context* by Vincent Barry. Access to the textbook is mandatory. It can be purchased as an e-book or hard copy via the Carleton University Bookstore.

Course Requirements

This is an online course. All classes will take the form of synchronous lectures on Zoom. Students are expected to review readings ahead of time and to come prepared to discuss them. Attendance is strongly recommended; however, sessions will be recorded for students who cannot attend.

Evaluations:

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| Case study commentary 1 (May 24 th) | 15% |
| Case study commentary 2 (June 6 th) | 20% |
| Case study commentary 3 (June 15 th) | 25% |
| Final exam (TBA) | 40% |

Course Calendar — Summer 2022

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| May 9th | Introduction Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , introduction, pp. 1-9 |
| I. Origins and Context of Bioethics | |
| May 11th | Religious and Secular Ethics Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 2, pp. 35-49 |
| May 16th | The Basic Principles of Bioethics Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 4, pp. 74-86 |
| May 18th | Beyond Principlism Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 6, pp. 111-117 <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 7, pp. 127-132, 139 |
| II. Issues at the Beginning of Life | |
| May 25th | Conceptual Matters in Abortion and Reproductive Technology Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 8, pp. 149-161 |
| May 30th | The Abortion Debate Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 10, pp. 185-197 |
| June 1st | The Assisted Reproduction Debate Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 11, pp. 205-216 |
| June 6th | The Prenatal Testing Debate Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 13, pp. 235-242 <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 14, pp. 247-255 |
| III. Issues at the End of Life | |
| June 8th | Conceptual Issues in Suicide and Euthanasia Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 18, pp. 313-326 |
| June 13th | The Assisted Death Debate Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 21, pp. 366-381 |
| June 15th | Rationing Healthcare at the End of Life Reading: <i>Bioethics in a Cultural Context</i> , Ch. 22, pp. 388-401 |

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Summer 2022)

Assignments:

Please follow your professor's instructions on how assignments will be handled electronically.

Evaluation:

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Deferrals for Term Work:

If students are unable to complete term work because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, they should contact their course instructor no later than *three working days* of the due date. Normally, any deferred term work will be completed by the last day of the term. Term work cannot be deferred by the Registrar.

Deferrals for Final Exams:

Students are expected to be available for the duration of a course including the examination period. Occasionally, students encounter circumstances beyond their control where they may not be able to write a final examination or submit a take-home examination. Examples of this would be a serious illness or the death of a family member. If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a take-home examination by the due date, you may apply for a deferral no later than *three working days* after the original due date (as per the University Regulations in [Section 4.3 of the Undergraduate Calendar](#)). Visit the [Registrar's Office](#) for further 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. ([Section 10.1 of the Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations](#))

Academic Accommodation:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term:

- *Pregnancy or religious obligation:* Please contact your instructor 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](#).
- *Academic accommodations for students with disabilities:* If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, visit the [Paul Menton Centre website](#).
- *Survivors of Sexual Violence:* As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support
- *Accommodation for Student Activities:* Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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.

Important Dates:

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| May 5 | Classes start. | July 1 | Statutory holiday, University closed. |
| May 12 | Last day for registration and course changes for <u>early</u> summer courses. | July 4 | Late summer courses begin and full summer courses resume. |
| May 19 | Last day for registration and course changes for <u>full</u> summer courses. | July 11 | Last day for registration and course changes for <u>late</u> summer courses. |
| May 20 | Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from <u>early</u> and <u>full</u> summer courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript. | July 22 | Last day to withdraw from <u>late</u> summer courses with a full fee adjustment. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript. |
| May 23 | Statutory holiday, University closed. | Aug. 1 | Civic holiday, University closed. |
| June 10 | Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade for <u>early</u> summer courses before the official examination period. | Aug. 9 | Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade for <u>late</u> summer and <u>full</u> summer courses before the official examination period. |
| June 17 | Last day for <u>early</u> summer classes. Classes follow a Monday schedule. Last day for handing in term work, subject to any earlier course deadline. | Aug. 16 | Last day of <u>late</u> and <u>full</u> summer term classes. Last day for handing in term work, subject to any earlier course deadline. Last day for academic withdrawal from <u>late</u> summer and <u>full</u> summer courses. |
| June 18-19 | No classes or examinations take place. | Aug. 17-18 | No classes or examinations take place. |
| June 20-26 | Final examinations. | Aug. 19-25 | Final examinations. |
| June 26 | Take-home examinations for <u>early</u> summer courses are due. | Aug. 25 | Take-home examinations for <u>late</u> or <u>full</u> summer courses are due. |

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:
www.carleton.ca/philosophy
520-2110

Registrar's Office:
www.carleton.ca/registrar
520-3500

Academic Advising Centre:
www.carleton.ca/academicadvising
520-7850

Writing Services:
<http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>
520-3822

MacOdrum Library
<http://www.library.carleton.ca/>
520-2735