**Bioethics PHIL 2408** Tue/Thu 6:05-7:25 pm
Professor Vida Panitch  vida.panitch@carleton.ca
Office: Paterson Hall 3A55, hours: Tuesday 4-6 pm

**Course Description:** This course will introduce students to on-going ethical debates in medicine, medical technology, and health care. We will begin with an exploration of the philosophical principles that inform bioethical reasoning. We will then go on to discuss the topics of public health care, research on human subjects, physician assisted death, reproduction, and genetic enhancement.

**Course Text:** Readings for this course are as indicated in the course schedule. Some will be made available as PDF files on CU Learn, others are linked below, and the rest can be found in the library’s online journal catalogue. Be prepared to do an average of 30 pages of reading per week.

**Course Evaluation:** Students will write a midterm exam, two brief papers, and a final take-home exam for this course. The in-class midterm will be worth 25%. The papers will be worth 20% each. The take-home exam will be worth 35% and will be due on the last day of the exam period.

**Course Schedule:** (*Note that minor changes may be made prior to Jan. 7, 2014*)

**Week 1: Introduction to the Course**
January 7 & 9:
- Introduction to bioethical problems, principles, and approaches (no reading)

**Week 2: Public Health Care**
January 14:

January 16:

**Week 3: Public Health Care**
January 21:
- Joseph Heath, “Health Care as a Commodity,” PDF on CU Learn.

January 23:
Week 4: Health Care and Global Obligations
January 28:
January 30:

Week 5: Research Ethics
February 4:
- The Nuremburg Code http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/archive/nurcode.html
- The Declaration of Helsinki http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/
February 6:

Week 6: Global Research Ethics
February 11:
February 13:

Week 7: Reading Break
Week 8: Competence and the Right to Refuse Treatment
February 25:
• Midterm Exam – In Class
February 27:
• Dan Brock and Allan Buchanan, “Deciding for Others.” PDF on CU Learn.

Week 9: Physician Assisted Death
March 4:
• John Arras: “Physician Assisted Suicide: A Tragic view.” PDF on CU Learn
March 6:

Week 10: Physician Assisted Death
March 11:
March 13:
• Screening: How to Die in Oregon (2011)

Week 11: Abortion and Moral Status
March 18:
March 20:

Week 12: Selective Abortion and Stem Cell Research
March 25:
March 27:
**Week 13: Engineering and Enhancement**

April 1:
- Julian Savulescu, “Procreative Beneficence: Why We Should Select the Best Children,” *Bioethics* 15.5-6 (2002): 413-426

April 3:

**Week 14: Review**

April 8:
- Exam Review Session  - **optional**
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 in the lower right corner of the cover sheet:
  - 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://www4.carleton.ca/calendars/ugrad/current/regulations/acadregsvmu14.html#14.3

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 me 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 me 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 me 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 me 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. 5 Classes start (after Orientation events).
- Sept. 18 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. 28 – Nov. 1 Fall Break – no classes.
- Nov. 25 Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
- Dec. 9 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. 9 Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
- Dec. 10 No classes or examinations take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
- Dec. 11-22 Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
- Dec. 22 Take-home exams are due.
- Jan. 6 Winter term classes begin.
- Jan. 17 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. 17-21 Winter Break, classes suspended.
- Mar. 25 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. 9-10 No classes or examinations take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
- Apr. 11-26 Final Examinations. Exams will not be held Apr. 18-20.
- Apr. 18 Good Friday – university closed.
- Apr. 26 Take-home exams are due.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy: 3A35 Paterson Hall
342 Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (2013-14)
chair DECLATION
342 520-2110
Registrar’s Office: 300 Tory
342 520-3500
Student Academic Success Centre: 302 Tory
342 520-7850
Writing Tutorial Service: 4th Floor, Library
342 520-6632
MacOdrum Library
342 520-2735