RELI 3120A: Rabbinic Texts - "Jewish Medical Ethics"

Professor: Rabbi Dr. Reuven P. Bulka
Office: 2A57 Paterson Hall    Office Hours: 5:00 - 6:00 Tuesday
Phone: 613-520-2100; Email: rbulka@connect.carleton.ca
Lectures: Tuesdays – 1805 – 2055

COURSE DESCRIPTION - Explores the major issues of Medical Ethics from a Jewish perspective. Topics include the mandate to heal, contraception, abortion, euthanasia, suicide, doctor assisted suicide, definition of death, organ donation, and autopsy, among other topics.

Evaluation
The final mark will fuse together class involvement (20%), term paper (40%), and final exam (40%).

Term paper proposals and outline are due by October 30, 2012. Late penalty is 2% per week.

The term paper is due by November 20, 2012. Maximum of 5 pages, typed and double-spaced. Late penalty is 1% per day.

The final exam will be take home, given out on the last day of the term, November 27, 2012. Exam is to be typed and double spaced.

Texts
Any Bible

Bio-Medical Ethics and Jewish Law, by Fred Rosner

Weekly Topics
September 11 - General overview
September 18 - Contraception & Abortion (Rosner, 69-83; 133-154)
September 25 - Euthanasia & Suicide (Rosner, 197-215; 247-261)
October 2 - Genetic Engineering (Rosner, 181-193)
October 9 - Defining Death (Rosner, 263-277)
October 16 - Organ & Tissue Donation (Rosner, 279-299)
October 23 - Autopsy (Rosner, 313-333)
October 30 - Smoking (Rosner, 391-403)
November 6 - Unconventional Therapies (Rosner, 419-432)
November 13 - Resource allocation (Rosner, 375-390)
November 20 - Visiting the Unwell (Rosner, 43-48)
November 27 - Review. Final exam, to take home.
REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPYES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED
Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM
The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course.

GRADING SYSTEM
Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

- A+ = 90-100 (12)
- A  = 85-89 (11)
- A- = 80-84 (10)
- B+ = 77-79 (9)
- B  = 73-76 (8)
- B- = 70-72 (7)
- C+ = 67-69 (6)
- C  = 63-66 (5)
- C- = 60-62 (4)
- D+ = 57-59 (3)
- D  = 53-56 (2)
- D- = 50-52 (1)
- F  = Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY
The last date to withdraw from FALL TERM courses is DEC. 3, 2012. The last day to withdraw from FALL/WINTER (Full Term) and WINTER term courses is APRIL 10, 2013.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and 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. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

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).

PETITIONS TO DEFER
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 a deferral of examination/assignment.
If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery. If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please contact the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept. Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor. Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within 5 working days of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)
College of the Humanities 520-2809 300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809 300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100 2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500 300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850 302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937 501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125 4th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125 4th Floor Library