

**Biomedical Ethics 09/10**

**IDH 3005, #87896 (3<sup>rd</sup> Year); IDH 4007, #88538 (4<sup>th</sup> Year), Section U10 Wed 11:00-13:45, Graham Center #277; CE6 Web Assisted email through CE6 Course or <pfeiffer@fiu.edu>**

**Mary Lou Pfeiffer, DM 233 Office hours by appointment**

**Office: 305-384-4100; fax 305-348-2118**

Texts (Fall and Spring):

- 1) *Illness as Metaphor and Aids and Its Metaphors*, Susan Sontag, New York: Holtzbrinck Publishers, 2001 ISBN 0-312-42013-7
- 2) *Medical Law and Ethics*, Bonnie F. Fremgen, Upper Saddle River: Pearson-Prentice Hall, 2006 ISBN 0-13-117708-7
- 3) *Biomedical Ethics*, Walter Glannon, New York: Oxford , 2005 ISBN 0-19-514431-7
- 4) *The Right Thing To Do: Basic Readings in Moral Philosophy*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., James Rachels, New York: McGraw Hill 1999, ISBN 0-07-051090-3
- 5) *The Balance Within, The Science Connecting Health and Emotions*, Esther M. Sternberg, MD, New York: WH Freeman and Co., 2001, ISBN 13-978-0-7167-4445-0 or 10-7167-4445-7

Note: possible changes to the course schedule and syllabi are subject to change if deemed necessary; announcements and emails will be sent accordingly through CE6. **Any missed assignment, quiz or discussion will be awarded a zero grade (0); exceptions as listed in the FIU handbook.**

Readings: Electronic, PDF files and articles are posted CE6.

This two-semester course is designed to enhance the student's knowledge of philosophical issues and ethical dilemmas that confront professionals in science, medicine and the allied healthcare fields. All assignments: essays, papers, quizzes, exams, and discussion topics for fall 2009 and spring 2010 and the "in-class" debates are posted online and will be submitted through CE6. Each student needs to verify her/his computer browser is compatible for CE6. A web tutorial is available to those unfamiliar with CE6 as a Web-Assisted course. Essays and papers should be titled with your name and word count; all papers and essays are to be **double-line spaced** with appropriate footnotes/endnotes, references (bibliography) [see requirements posted on the homepage online].

The course will be divided into three modules for fall and two modules for spring. Module 1 (weeks 1-7) focuses on the history and theories of moral philosophy that led to the study of ethics, its evolution into biomedical ethics, and finally into the medical/legal issues: an examination of the laws that govern healthcare and medical practices in the US, HIPPA. The laws deal with how we live and treat the human body in science and medicine. Weeks 8-12 comprise Module 2: "The New Medicine," (incorporation of global practices that challenge Western conventional medicine); comparative and alternative medicine [CAM]; and AIDS with an in depth discussion of Sontag's book and a resulting essay (2,000 words). The focus for Module 3 (weeks 13-15) is Dr. Esther

Sternberg's book including ideas regarding 'body-mind-spirit' healing. Fall grades are based on 4 quizzes (20%); 2 short written assignments (15%), 2 essays (30%): one, a critical review of Sontag's book (2,000 words), one based on Sternberg's book (2,000 words); bioethics final paper (25%); online discussion topics/class participation/attendance (10%).

In the spring semester ethical issues that face society are addressed through lectures, DVD's, videos, and a visit (date TBA) to "The Wolfsonian." Topics include genetics, the Human Genome project, medical research on humans and animals, eugenics, reproductive rights and technologies, birth control/abortion, stem cells, allocation of medical resources, rights of disabled and mentally ill persons, death and dying (euthanasia), and quality of life issues. There are two major assignments for spring: a debate (in class with assigned pro/con issues, and a final research paper based on the one of the biomedical ethics issues from the fall paper. The students' debates [randomly assigned topics] (pro/con) on the societal issues that face us in biomedical ethics (35%); a 3000-word research paper (35%), 1 short essay (10%); 3 quizzes (10%), and a continuation of ethical issues discussions online/class participation (10%).

*Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.*

*Misconduct includes: Cheating – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not.*

*Plagiarism – The use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is responsible for plagiarism.*

## **Module #1**

**Week 1 Aug 26 Reading assignments for week 1: Glannon, Preface (xi-xii) Ch 1 (pp1-22); Fremgen, Preface (ix-x), Letter to the Student (xi-xii), How to Interpret Case Citations (xiii-xiv), Ch 1 (pp1-21), consider Points to Ponder (p17), Practice Exercises/Multiple choice (pp18-20); this is to be turned in "in class" **graded as a Assignment #1 (submit through the Assignment tool)**; read through case study (p21); Rachels, Preface (v), Part I-Ch 1-9 (pp 1-86)**

**Lecture:** Course Introduction; ethics and biomedical ethics: history and theories, glossary of terms; **Reading assignments for week 2:** Fremgen, Ch 2-3, The Legal System (pp25-48)

**Week 2 Sept 2** Lecture and discuss on ethics, morality and the move into bioethics; case studies; The Legal System; **Reading Assignment for week 3:** Fremgen Ch 3-4 (pp26-85), **Quiz #1 is posted online in the Assessment tool- ethics/biomedical ethics terms and ideas from readings and the lectures, due Sept 8 at 12:00 PM, noon.**

**Week 3 Sept 9** Discuss legal issues for physicians and healthcare workers; **Reading Assignments for week 4:** Glannon, Ch 2 (pp23-45); Fremgen Ch 5-6 (pp89-142)

**Week 4 Sept 16** Liability, Malpractice, **Short Essay Assignment #2 due Oct. 17 “Legislating Morality” (submit online through the Assignment tool); participate in online discussion #1 (Use the Discussion tool) for Week 4, “malpractice;” Assignment for week 5:** Fremgen, Ch 7-8-9 (pp162-203)

**Week 5 Sept 23** Public Health, Federal Regulations in Medicine, Anti-Trust Laws, Medical Records; **Reading Assignment for week 6:** Fremgen, Ch10- (pp204-223)

**Week 6 Sept 30** HIPPA lecture; possible guest speaker; **Quiz #2 glossary terms (online); participate in online discussion for Week 6; Reading Assignments for week 7:** Read PDF “Reforming the American Medical System” online, “Health Care Models and current articles on US Healthcare

**Week 7 Oct 7** Healthcare in the US; participate in online discussion #2

## **Module #2**

**Week 8 Oct 14** “The New Medicine” DVD, 114 minutes **select topic for essay on biomedical ethics issue [Dec 10] and submit thesis statement, abstract with at least two resources through the Assignment tool via email due Oct 16;** Discussion of “The New Medicine,” begin DVD *Remaking American Medicine*. **Reading Assignment for weeks 9-10:** Susan Sontag, *Illness as Metaphor and Aids and its Metaphors*; Glannon, (pp62-68); PDF from *The Politics of Healing* edited by Robert D. Johnston, (pp269-70);

**Week 9 Oct 21** Video segment: MSNBC: Chris Hansen’s Investigation “Inside the world of counterfeit drugs”, access through <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/13099555/> or <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/12319584/> Participate in online discussion involving counterfeit drugs; **participate in online discussion for Week 9, counterfeit drugs; Reading Assignment for weeks 10-11** Read PDF “Preventing the Global Spread of AIDS”

**Week 10 Oct 28** **Quiz #3 Legal terms and laws;** Begin Module 3 on Aids, discussion of Sontag and “Preventing the Global Spread...” Begin DVD “The Age of Aids” **Essay #2 due today at 08:00 AM**

**Week 11 Nov 4** Complete DVD: “The Age of AIDS” **Participate in online discussion for Week 11 on AIDS; Assignment for weeks 13-15: discussion; Quiz #4, Legal terms;**

**Week 12 Nov 11** Continue with AIDS lecture and discussion; **Reading Assignment for Module #3, Weeks 13-15, *The Balance Within...Dr. Esther Sternberg*; Quiz #4-AIDS**

### **Module #3**

**Week 13 Nov 18** Videos in class on Body-mind-spirit healing; participate in online **Discussion weeks 13/14**

**Week 14 Nov 25** Thanksgiving Holiday, No class; complete Sternberg essay; finalize paper draft

**Week 15 Dec 2: Sternberg essay due at noon, 12:00 PM Dec 1; Final paper due Dec. 8 at noon, 12:00 PM through the Assignment tool; conclusions.**

Finals week Dec 7-12, **No final exam, final paper due Dec 7 at noon, 12:00 PM**

### **Syllabus, Spring 2009, Biomedical Ethics**

**IDH 3006 (#18167), IDH 4008 (#18177), U13, GC 283 A, Wednesday 1100AM-13:45**  
Online electronic readings to accompany ethical issues

### **Module 1**

**Week 1 Jan 6** Review; begin Genetics, The Human Genome Project; view, Wells DVD- *The Journey of Man*

**Week 2 Jan 13** Reproductive Rights and Technologies, Designer Babies; **Quiz #1** (online in Assessment tool)- Wells DVD

**Week 3 Jan 20** Birth Control/Abortion, Video presentation, in class discussion

**Week 4 Jan 27** Stem cells, Video presentation, in class discussion

**Week 5 Feb 3** Allocation of Medical Resources, organ transplants

**Week 6 Feb 10** visit **The Wolfsonian “Eugenics” Exhibit; information regarding the exhibit TBA; Quiz #2- ethical issues from Weeks 1-5 through the Assessment tool**

**Week 7 Feb 17** Rights of “Other Able-d” Persons and treating the Mentally Ill- a look into global Health Care models, treatment of elders, and “other able-d;” Lecture and DVD

**Essay Assignment from Wolfsonian Exhibit, (1500 words); submit through the Assignment tool, Essay #1)**

**Week 8 Feb 24** Issues of Death and Dying, Euthanasia, DVD “Terry Schiavo Case,” The Oregon Law

**Week 9 Mar 3** Debate team assignments and discussion; **online Quiz #3**, glossary [terms] view *The Great Debaters*

**Module 2**

**Week 10 Mar 10** Debate teams meet in class; review debate rules, finalize research paper, rough draft due; **Quiz #4**

**Week 11 Mar 17** No class, **Spring Break, Mar 15-21**

**Week 12 Mar 24** Debate teams meet in class

**Week 13 Mar 31** In class debates (SRAI, Mar 30)

**Week 14 Apr 7** In class debates

**Week 15 Apr 13** In class debates

**Finals week April 19-24: Final Research paper due Apr 20, turn in paper copy or submit as an attachment in the Assignment tool.**