



## UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

### Health Sciences HS 2610: Introduction to Ethics & Health

Dr. Ramona Fernandez

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Office Hours: TBA or by appointment

#### Course Information:

Term: Winter 2015 (January- April 2015)  
 Lectures: Thursdays 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM  
 Natural Sciences Building Room NS-1  
 Tutorials: Please refer to your enrollment schedule

#### Description:

An introduction to basic moral theory, and development of an understanding of moral reasoning. The course will also teach students to apply basic principles of sound moral decision-making to important ethical issues in health including: concepts of health, wellness, explaining/justifying moral decisions in health will be explored by surveying major philosophical approaches to ethics.

Antirequisite(s): The former Kinesiology 2293F/G, Philosophy 2071E.

Prerequisite(s): Health Sciences 1001A/B and Health Sciences 1002A/B; or the former Health Sciences 1000.

\*Note: Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean (see your academic counsellor) to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

#### Course materials

Required texts: 1) Fisher, J. (Ed.). (2013). *Biomedical Ethics: A Canadian focus (2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed.)* Oxford University Press  
 2) Reading and materials posted on WebCT

Recommended: APA Manual 6<sup>th</sup> Edition  
 Northey, M. & McKibbin, J. (2012). *Making Sense: A Student's Guide to Research and Writing 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Oxford University Press

#### Course Objectives:

- Gain a broad appreciation of ethical theory and professional ethics.
- Be able to identify ethical dilemmas and appreciate the relational contexts.
- Be able to formulate an ethically sensitive decision making approach using theoretical concepts and critical thinking.

## Course Evaluation:

- |                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) Mid-term exam   | 25%                       |
| 2) Essay           | 35%                       |
| 3) Final Exam      | 35%                       |
| 4) Professionalism | 5% * see course policies* |

## Schedule

Date	Topic
Jan 8	Introduction & Syllabus review
Jan 15	Ethical & Moral Theory I
Jan 22	Ethical theory II, current issues and controversies
Jan 29	Medical Management & Decision making
Feb 5	MIDTERM EXAM
Feb 12	Moral Status of fetus & infant
Feb 19	READING WEEK
Feb 26	Genetic Technology
Mar 5	End of Life I                      ESSAY DUE
Mar 12	End of life II
Mar 19	Access to Health Care
Mar 26	Research Ethics
April 5	TBA
TBA	FINAL EXAM

Deadlines:Essay:

Please note that due to the size of the class, essay assignments must be submitted in hard copy IN CLASS on the due date ONLY. Students can hand in their papers in class either before

accommodations/support and refer to UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness  
<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>.

Midterm:

Please note that there are no make-ups for missed mid-term exam. In the event of a missed mid-term where academic accommodation has been granted for medical or extenuating circumstances the weight of the midterm will be reallocated to the final exam, which will then be worth 60% of the final grade. In the event of personal hardships due to medical or extenuating circumstances please contact your academic counsellor about academic accommodations/support and refer to UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness  
<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>.

Assignment details:

Mid-term & Final exams will be in multiple choice format.

All material covered in any format is fair game for the exam including anything covered in assigned readings, required materials posted on WebCT, lecture slides, spoken lecture, videos or guest speakers. It is the responsibility of students to attend all classes and not miss classes.

Essay:

Topic and complete instructions will be posted on WebCT as well as addressed in class.

Papers are to be 2500 words (approx. 8-10 pages double spaced max).

Papers will adhere to APA format (6<sup>th</sup> edition) for format and citations.

A marking grid will be provided (in class/ WebCT) prior to the due date to help students understand the elements of a good paper and how it will be graded.

\* *Note: this is a scholarly paper*



Documentation heading of the following website:

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>.

Documentation is required for non-medical absences where the course work missed is more than 10% of the overall grade. Students may contact their Faculty Academic Counselling Office for what documentation is needed.

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner. Documentation for any request for accommodation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate  
5WXYa ]W7 ci bgY``]b[ `C Z]VW`cZh\Y`gh XYbhj: UW `hmcZfY[ ]ghfUh]cb"': cf'6 < GWgh XYbhgZ`mci ` may go to the School of Health Studies Office in HSB room 222.

### **Support Services**

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Student Development Centre -- <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/>
2. Student Health -- <http://www.shs.uwo.ca/student/studenthealthservices.html>
3. Registrar's Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombuds Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>