Syllabus, Fall 2008, Biomedical Ethics
3rd Year Honors: Values and Authority
IDH 3005, #96975 (3rd Year); IDH 4007, #96995 (4th Year), U13 Wed 11:00-13:45,
DM #190; CE6 Web Assisted

Mary Lou Pfeiffer, DM 233 Office hours Wednesday 9:30-10:30 or by appointment
Office: 305-384-4100; fax 305-348-2118

Texts:
1) *Illness as Metaphor and AIDS and Its Metaphors*, Susan Sontag, New York:
2) *Medical Law and Ethics*, Bonnie F. Fremgen, Upper Saddle River: Pearson-Prentice
4) *The Right Thing To Do: Basic Readings in Moral Philosophy*, 2nd Ed., James Rachels,

Readings: Electronic, PDF files and articles are posted CE6.
Assigned texts continue spring. The experimental required reading for 3rd year Honors
will be included at the end of the fall semester, excerpts from Dante Alighieri’s *The
Divine Comedy.*

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, discussion topics and groups for Dante (fall) and the “in-class” debates (spring)
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 name and
word count; double-line spaced with footnotes/end notes, 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 1-6) focuses on the history and theories of moral philosophy that led to
the study of ethics, its evolution into biomedical ethics, and legal issues. Examination of
the laws that govern healthcare and medical practices follow the introductory “ethics”
lectures. The laws deal with how we live and treat the human body in science and
medicine. Weeks 7-12 comprise Module 2: “The New Medicine,” (incorporation of
global practices that challenge Western conventional medicine); comparative and
alternative medicine [CAM]; and AIDS. The focus for Module 3 (weeks 13-15) is
discussions and class PPT presentations from Dante work. Fall grades are based on 4
quizzes (20%); 3 essays (30%); a group PPT project: Dante (20%); a short (1,500 word)
paper (20%), and online discussion participation (10%).

In the spring semester ethical issues that face society are addressed through lectures,
DVD’s, videos, and a visit (dates 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), quality of life issues and CAM. There are two major assignments for spring: a debate (in class with assigned pro/con issues, and a final research paper based on the fall “short” paper. The students are randomly assigned a debate topic (pro/con) on the societal issues listed above (40%); a 2000-2500-word research paper (50%), quizzes and short essays are integrated into the ethical issues discussions (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 27 Assignment 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), complete Discussion Questions (pp17-18), Practice Exercises/Multiple choice (pp18-20): this is graded as Quiz #1; read through case study (p21); Rachels, Preface (v), Part I-Ch 1-9 (pp 1-86)
Lecture: Introduction to the course; Philosophy: history and theories, glossary;
Assignment for week 2: Fremgen, Ch 2-3, The Legal System (pp25-48)

Week 2 Sept 3 Lecture and discuss on ethics, morality and the move into bioethics; case studies; The Legal System; Assignment for week 3: Fremgen Ch 3-4 (pp26-85), complete Practice Exercise and Multiple Choice (pp45-47) and (81-83): this is graded as Quiz #2

Week 3 Sept 10 Discuss legal issues for physicians and healthcare workers; Assignment for week 4: Glannon, Ch 2 (pp23-45); Fremgen Ch 5-6 (pp89-142)

Week 4 Sept 17 Liability, Malpractice, Essay #1 due Oct. 17 “Legislating Morality” (submit online through the Assignment tool); participate in online discussion for Week 4, “malpractice;” Assignment for week 5: Fremgen, Ch 7-8-9 (pp162-203)
Week 5 Sept 24  Public Health, Federal Regulations in Medicine, Anti-Trust Laws, Medical Records; Assignment for week 6: Fremgen, Ch10- (pp204-223)

Week 6 Oct 1  HIPPA lecture; guest speaker week 6 or 7; Quiz #3 “ethics” terms (online); Essay #2, “Health Care Models” due Oct. 24 (submit online under the Assignment tool); participate in online discussion for Week 6; Assignment for week 7: Read PDF “Reforming the American Medical System” online and Health Care Models

Module #2
Week 7 Oct 8 “The New Medicine” DVD, 114 minutes select topic for essay due Dec 8 and submit via email; title, abstract

Week 8 Oct 15 Discussion of “The New Medicine,” begin DVD Remaking American Medicine. Assignment for week 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); essay #1 due today by 08:00 AM (submit online through the Assignment tool)

Week 9 Oct 22 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; select topic for Essay #3 (this will become the research paper topic for spring); participate in online discussion for Week 9, counterfeit drugs; Assignment for weeks 10-11 Read PDF “Preventing the Global Spread of AIDS”

Week 10 Oct 29 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 5 Complete DVD: “The Age of AIDS” Participate in online discussion for Week 11 on AIDS; Assignment for weeks 12-13: Dante, The Divine Comedy, groups assigned for Dante discussion; Quiz #4, Legal terms;

Module #3
Week 12 Nov 12 Aids lecture and discussion; work on research paper

Week 13 Nov 19 Dante group meetings

Week 14 Nov 26 Thanksgiving Holiday, No class

Week 15 Dec 3: Last class, Dante PPT presentations in class 10-15 minutes each)

Finals week Dec 8-13 Essay #3 due at 08:00 AM, Dec 8 (submit through the Assignment tool)
**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Jan</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Review; Genetics, The Human Genome Project, Wells- <em>The Journey of Man</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Jan</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Reproductive Rights and Technologies, Designer Babies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Jan</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Birth Control/Abortion, Video presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Jan</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Stem cells, Video presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Feb</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Allocation of Medical Resources, organ transplants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Feb</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Visit The Wolfsonian “Eugenics” Exhibit; essay regarding the exhibit due Feb 17 at 08:00 AM (submit through the Assignment tool)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Feb</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Rights of “Other Able-d” Persons and treating the Mentally Ill (global Health Care models), Lecture and DVD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Feb</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Issues of Death and Dying, Euthanasia, DVD “Terry Schiavo Case,” The Oregon Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Mar</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Debate team assignments; CAM lecture (assignments from files online for CAM; online quiz, glossary [terms])</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Mar</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Debate teams meet in class; Debate rules review, Guest speaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Mar</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>No class, Spring Break, Mar 16-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Mar</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Debate teams meet in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Apr</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>In class debates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Apr</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>In class debates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Apr</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>In class debates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Finals week April 20-25 Final Research paper due Apr 22, turn in paper copy and submit as an attachment online via email.