



uOttawa

Université d'Ottawa | University of Ottawa

Faculté des Arts/Faculty of Arts

Département de Philosophie/Department of Philosophy

## PHI2396A-BIOETHICS

**GERVAIS DESIRÉ YAMB**

**FALL 2016**

### OUTLINE

Schedule: Tuesday: 8 : 30 - 10 : 00  
Friday : 10 : 00 – 11 : 30

Room: SCR 002

Office : DMS 8146

Office Hours : Tuesday : 11 :00 -13 : 00 & Friday : 12 : 30 – 14 :00

E-mail : [gyamb@uottawa.ca](mailto:gyamb@uottawa.ca)

Dates & Hours of Group Discussions (GDs): Fridays, 10—11:30, beginning 23 September

Teaching Assistants : Emma Goodrich : [egood084@uottawa.ca](mailto:egood084@uottawa.ca).  
Martin Goldstein : [mgold080@uottawa.ca](mailto:mgold080@uottawa.ca)

Any questions sent by email should receive an answer within two working days or the next class if it takes place within 48 hours of receiving the email. Please note that the lecturer reserves the right not to answer an email if the quality of language is not adequate.

### OFFICIAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

Study of moral issues in medical research and health care. Possible topics include human and animal experimentation; the rights and duties of health professionals and patients; euthanasia, abortion, reproductive technologies, genetic screening; funding and allocation decisions. Role of moral theories and concepts in addressing these problems.

## **GENERAL AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

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This course will :

- ✓ introduce students to an array of bioethical issues
- ✓ facilitate successful decisions about these and related issues by examining the structure of these issues and related problems
- ✓ introduce students to moral philosophy and theories through the study of some medical ethics issues
- ✓ critically examined Patient-physician relationships as well as guidelines for joint-decision making with such relationships

## **TEACHING METHOD**

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The course will be taught through a combination of formal lectures and some group discussions (GDs). Lectures will be presented according to the outline proposed by the teacher, followed by Group discussions (GDs) led by the Professor. The primary objective of the GDs is to deepen some questions and thematic presented in class. It is important to know that the course will include 4 GDs. The student's presence and participation in the GDs are mandatory. This will be assessed according to the relevance of their intervention and understanding of the texts which, moreover, are an essential part of the course. The readings are mandatory (for lectures and GDs) and are an important component of the midterms and final examinations.

## **ASSESSMENT METHODS**

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<b>Evaluation format</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Date</b>
First exam in class	25 %	October 18, 2016
Second exam in class	25 %	November 22, 2016
Presence and participation	10%	
Final exam	40%	To be determined

The two midterm exams will be held in class, the final exam during the examination period. **They will comprise two components. Part I focuses on definition of concepts and Part II focuses on three essays. The students will choose one essay among the three.**

**First exam:** it will cover the course material discussed in the introduction and the Part I. It will be held on October 18, **2016**.

**Second exam:** Not cumulative. It will cover all the material not discussed after the first exam. It will be held on **November 22, 2016**.

**Final exam:** Not cumulative. It will cover all the material not discussed after the second exam. The date will be determined later by the University.

## **COURSE READINGS**

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- Charles Weijer, Anthony Skelton and Samantha Brennan, *Bioethics in Canada*, Don Mills, Oxford University Press, 2013. **It is our major Textbook.**
- Marcus Düwell, *Bioethics: Methods, Theories and Domains*, London & New York, Routledge, 2013. (Readings on Blackboard)
- Tom L. Beauchamp & James F. Childress, *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*, New York/Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2013. (Readings on Blackboard)
- Helga Kuhse and Peter Singer, *A Companion to Bioethics*, Oxford, Blackwell Companions to Philosophy, 2009. (Readings on Blackboard)
- Some relevant articles will be posted on blackboard for GDs as well some additional readings available through electronic journals via the relevant site.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

(Some changes might be made in this course calendar according to our progress)

DATE	COURSE	READINGS
<p><b><i>WEEK 1 :</i></b> <b>13-16/9/16</b></p> <p><b>Lecture</b></p>	<p><b>General introduction</b> : explanations and syllabus presentation, structure, readings and evaluations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theoretical framework and conceptual clarification</li> <li>• How to define the notions of: “Bioethics”, “Biomedicine”, “philosophy”, “Ethics”, “Biomedical Ethics”.</li> <li>• <b>Problematic</b> : what could be the norms and moral theories that guide successful decisions in dealing with bioethical issues?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Compulsory Readings:</b></p> <p>⇒ Marcus Düwell, “What is bioethics”, pp. 1-26. (Blackboard).</p>
<p><b><i>PART I :</i></b> <b><i>BIOETHICS: ORIGINS, MORAL FOUNDATIONS AND ETHICAL APPROACHES</i></b></p>		
<p><b><i>WEEKS 1-5 :</i></b> <b>Tuesday 20/9 to Tuesday 11/10/2016</b></p> <p><b>LECTURE</b></p> <p><b>Friday 23/9/ 2016</b></p> <p><b>Group Discussions (GDs-1)</b></p>	<p><b>Reminder:</b> definition of bioethics, biomedicine, philosophy, ethics...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bioethics – Origins and History:</b> Medical ethics and Bioethics, Nursing ethics and Bioethics, Patient-Physician Relationships</li> <li>• <b>Moral Foundations:</b> Moral norms in Bioethics, Moral Character in Bioethics</li> <li>• <b>Ethical approaches:</b> Principle based Approach, Exceptionless Rule Approaches, Utilitarian Approach, Care Approach, Case Approach</li> <li>• <b>Writing a philosophical Essay: methodology- Exam Review</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Compulsory Readings:</b></p> <p>⇒ Helga Kuhse and Peter Singer, “What is Bioethics ? A historical Introduction”, in <i>A Companion to Bioethics</i>, 2009, pp. 3-11. (Blackboard).</p> <p>⇒ Tom L. Beauchamp and James F. Childress, “Moral Norms and Moral Character” , in <i>Principles of Biomedical Ethics</i>, pp. 1-43 (Blackboard).</p> <p>⇒ “Ethical Approaches”, in Helga Kuhse and Peter Singer, <i>A Companion to Bioethics</i>, 2009 pp. 65-117.</p>
<p><b><i>TUESDAY 18 OF OCTOBER 2016</i></b> <b><i>FIRST EXAM IN CLASS (80 mn)</i></b></p>		

**PART II :**  
**BIOETHICS IN CANADA: ETHICAL ISSUES AND PROBLEMS IN THE PRACTICE OF HEALTHCARE**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>WEEKS 7-10 :</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1/10/16 to 22/10/16</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LECTURE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 14/10/ 2016</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GDs - 2</b></p>	<p><b>Reminder:</b> origins of Bioethics, Moral Foundations and Ethical approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ethical Issues:</b> Conception and Embryos, Fetuses, Defining Death, Procreation and Child Rearing, Adults and Decision-Making</li> <li>• <b>Ethical Problems in Healthcare</b> : What is Disease ? Conflict about Appropriate Treatment, Equipoise and Clinical Research, Justice and Access to Health Care, Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia</li> <li>• <b>Writing a philosophical Essay: methodology – Exam Review</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Compulsory Readings:</b></p> <p>⇒ Charles Weijer, Anthony Skelton and Samantha Brennan, <i>Bioethics in Canada</i>, p. 1-20; pp. 21-36; pp. 37-55; pp. 56-73; pp. 163-179.</p> <p>⇒ Charles Weijer, Anthony Skelton and Samantha Brennan, <i>Bioethics in Canada</i>, pp. 212-229; 74-92; pp. 93-110; pp. 111-126; pp. 145-162.</p>
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**TUESDAY 22 OF NOVEMBER 2016**  
**SECOND EXAM IN CLASS (80 mn)**

**PART III :**  
**RESEARCH, GLOBAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH IN BIOETHICS**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>WEEKS 10-13 :</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>22/10/16 to 6/12/16</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LECTURE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 11/11/ GDs - 3</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 2/12/16</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GDs - 4</b></p>	<p><b>Reminder:</b> Some Ethical Issues and Problems in Health care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Research in Bioethics:</b> Equipoise and Clinical Research, Research involving Human Beings, Research on Non-human Animals, Genethics</li> <li>• <b>Global and Public Health :</b> Ethics and Public Health, Obligations to the Global Poor, AIDS as a Global Health Issue</li> <li>• <b>Writing a philosophical Essay: methodology – Final Exam Review</b></li> <li>• <b>Conclusion of the course</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Compulsory Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Charles Weijer, Anthony Skelton and Samantha Brennan, <i>Bioethics in Canada</i> pp. 93-110; pp. 249-265.</li> <li>⇒ Florencia Luna, “ Research Involving Human Beings” in Helga Kuhse and Peter Singer, “What is Bioethics ? A historical Introduction”, in <i>A Companion to Bioethics</i>, 2009, pp. 457-468. (Blackboard).</li> <li>⇒ Julian Savulescu, “Genetic Enhancement” in Helga Kuhse and Peter Singer, “What is Bioethics ? A historical Introduction”, in <i>A Companion to Bioethics</i>, 2009, pp. 216-236. (Blackboard).</li> <li>⇒ Charles Weijer, Anthony Skelton and Samantha Brennan, <i>Bioethics in Canada</i> pp. 231-248; pp. 249-265.</li> <li>⇒ Udo Schüklenk, “ AIDS as a Global Emergency” in Helga Kuhse and Peter Singer, “What is Bioethics ? A historical Introduction”, in <i>A Companion to Bioethics</i>, 2009, pp. 441-454. (Blackboard).</li> </ul>
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**FINAL EXAM IN CLASS (2 hours)-DATE TO BE DETERMINED**

## University of Ottawa—ACADEMIC FRAUD

### Definition

1. Academic fraud is an act by a student that may result in a false academic evaluation of that student or of another student. Without limiting the generality of this definition, academic fraud occurs when a student commits any of the following offences:

- a) commits plagiarism or cheating of any kind; (to obtain more information on plagiarism and how to avoid it, consult our Web site at [www.uottawa.ca/plagiarism.pdf](http://www.uottawa.ca/plagiarism.pdf)).
- b) submits a work of which the student is not the author, in whole or in part (except for duly cited quotations or references). Such work may include an academic paper, an essay, a test, an exam, a research report, and a thesis, whether written, oral, or in another form;
- c) presents research data that has been falsified or concocted in any way;
- d) attributes a purported statement of fact or reference to a source that has been concocted;
- e) submits the same piece of work or significant part thereof for more than one course, or a thesis or other work that has already been submitted elsewhere, without written authorization of the professors concerned and/or of the academic unit concerned;
- f) falsifies an academic evaluation, misrepresents an academic evaluation, uses a forged or falsified academic record or supporting document, or facilitates the use of a falsified academic record or supporting document;
- g) undertakes any other action for the purpose of falsifying an academic evaluation.

### Sanctions

2. A student who has committed or attempted to commit academic fraud, or who has been a party to academic fraud, is subject to one or more of the following sanctions:

- a) the mark of F or zero for the work concerned;
- b) the mark of F or zero for the course concerned;
- c) the mark F or zero for the course concerned and the loss of all or part of the credits for the academic year concerned and/or an additional requirement of 3 to 30 credits added to the student's program of studies. The courses for which credits were withdrawn remain in the student's file; they are included in the grade point average and must be repeated or replaced by other courses at the discretion of the Faculty;
- d) suspension from the program or from the Faculty, for at least one session and at most three academic years;
- e) expulsion from the Faculty;
- f) expulsion from the University of Ottawa for at least three years, it being understood that three years after being expelled, the student concerned may ask the Senate committee for the study of individual cases to review his or her case, with the possibility, where applicable, of having the notice of expulsion withdrawn from the student's transcript. If the student reapplies for admission, the regular admission process shall apply;
- g) cancellation or revocation of a degree, diploma or certificate where the offence relates to the eligibility to receive such degree, diploma or certificate, and was discovered or determined after its award;
- h) inclusion of the following statement in the student's academic transcript: "Sanction pursuant to contravention of the University regulations on fraud."