

ETHICS AND THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Fall 2016

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY: PHI 593; REL 551
SUNY UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY: MED CCFM 1402; CON CCFM 402; GRAD 6402
LE MOYNE COLLEGE: CCM 408/508; PHL 347

Weds 4:30-7:30 p.m., Room 3507, Setnor Academic Building, SUNY Upstate Campus

Professor: **Paul Prescott, PhD**

Email: papresco@syr.edu

Office Hours: #####

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Tom L. Beauchamp & James F. Childress. *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*, 7th edition. Oxford, 2013. ISBN: 0199924589
- T. R. Reid, *The Healing of America: A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper, and Fairer Health Care*, revised edition. Penguin, 2010. ISBN: 0143118218

The required texts are available at the Upstate Medical University Bookstore and the Syracuse University Bookstore. All other reading will be available for download on Blackboard.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Ethics and the Health Professions is a graduate-level seminar on the ethical dimensions of healthcare. The goal of the course is to provide students with opportunities to discern philosophical fundamentals in various healthcare contexts. Topics range from the professional-patient relationship to the political economy of healthcare on a global scale.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance: The class meets only once per week. Hence, students are expected to be in attendance for *every class session*.

Participation: The course is a seminar, and (more often than not) classes will be in the form of discussion. Hence, *regular reading, preparation, and participation are expected*.

Writing Assignments: Writing assignments will consist of weekly reflection papers and a formal essay. Due dates for all writing assignments are indicated on the course calendar. Late assignments will not be accepted. Each student may miss one weekly reflection assignment over the course of the semester.

- Reflection Papers –The reflection papers will be two-page, double-spaced writing assignments based on an assigned topic. The assigned tasks will vary.
- Final Paper –The final paper will be a formal essay of ten to fifteen pages on a topic of the student’s choosing. Prior to final submission, other students in the class will comment upon an initial draft. Additional guidelines will be provided as the course progresses. Final papers are due in hardcopy on the last day of class.

GRADING

Students will be graded on the basis of:

- (1) the quality of participation in the seminar discussions (attendance included);
- (2) the timely completion of reflection assignments;
- (3) the quality of the formal essay.

RESOURCES AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING

- K. W. M. Fulford, Donna Dickenson, & Thomas Murray (eds.). *Healthcare Ethics and Human Values*. Blackwell, 2002.
- Helga Kuhse & Peter Singer (eds.). *A Companion to Bioethics*, 2nd edition. Wiley Blackwell, 2013.
- Linda Farber Post & Jeffrey Blustein (eds.). *Handbook for Health Care Ethics Committees*, 2nd edition. John Hopkins, 2015.
- Peter A. Singer & A. M. Viens (eds.). *The Cambridge Textbook of Bioethics*. Cambridge, 2008.
- Edward N. Zalta (ed.). *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*: <http://plato.stanford.edu>

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Aug 31: Course Introduction

Reading: Syllabus

Sept 7: The Nature of Morality

Reading: Beauchamp & Childress: 1-2. Moral Norms & Moral Virtues

Writing: FIRST REFLECTION

Sept 14: Principle 1: *Respect for Autonomy*

Reading: Beauchamp & Childress: 4. Respect for Autonomy

Writing: CASE A

Sept 21: Principle 2: *Nonmaleficence*

Reading: Beauchamp & Childress: 5. Nonmaleficence

Writing: CASE B

Sept 28: Principle 3: *Beneficence*

Reading: Beauchamp & Childress: 6. Beneficence

Writing: CASE C

Oct 5: *The Professional-Patient Relationship*

Reading: Beauchamp & Childress: 8. Professional-Patient Relationships

Gillion, "Telling the Truth, Confidentiality, Consent, and Respect for Autonomy"

Writing: CASE D

Oct 12: *The Abortion Debate*

Reading: Finis: "Abortion and Health Care Ethics"

Tooley: "Abortion and Infanticide"

Writing: CASE F

Oct 12: *Mental Healthcare Ethics*

Reading: Radden, "Boundary Violation Ethics: Some Conceptual Clarifications"

Reamer, "Boundary Issues in Social Work: Managing Dual Relationships"

Writing: CASE E

Oct 26: *Organizational Ethics in Nursing*

Reading: Mappes, "Ethical Dilemmas for Nurses: Doctor's Orders v. Patient Rights"

Chambliss, "How the Organization Creates Ethical Problems"

Writing: WORK ON DRAFTS

Nov 2: Principle 4: *Justice*

Reading: Beauchamp & Childress: 7. Justice

Writing: EXCHANGE COMPLETE DRAFTS

Nov 9: ***The American Health Care System***

Reading: Reid: Prologue, 1-3.

Writing: RETURN COMPLETE DRAFTS WITH COMMENTS

Nov 16: ***International Health Care Systems***

Reading: Reid: 4-11.

Writing: REVISE DRAFTS

THANKSGIVING BREAK

Nov 30: ***Health Care Reform***

Reading: Reid: 12, 13, Afterword, Appendix.

Writing: FINAL REFLECTION

Dec 7: ***Course Conclusion***

Writing: FINAL PAPER DUE

