

By

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU

Religious Studies

RE 330 Biomedical Ethics

Scheduled Class Days:

Fall Interim, 1998

September 16, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24,

Time: Evening classes start at 5:30 p.m.

26,28,30 and October 3rd.

Saturday classes meet 8:00 - 12:00 noon

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Catalog Description: Examines Christian perspectives on ethical issues in the fields of biology, medicine, and the life sciences. The goals are to assist students to develop an understanding of the personal and social dimensions of these ethical perspectives, develop methods for dealing with relevant ethical issues, and the historical commitment of the Christian communities' reflections and moral teachings in this area. (3 credits)

Amplification: Beyond the Christian perspectives, course outline will be adjusted to include the ecumenical or interreligious components critical to the authentic study of basic ethical principles.

Correlation: Upper division ethics classes are taught currently in Business and Criminal Justice. Within each class there would be some majors from the designated field, but each class is presented so that any student could learn basic principles. The fundamental premise is for each student to be exposed to applied ethics. This Biomedical Ethics course which deals with contemporary issues in society, does not require advanced knowledge of science or medicine.

Resource Material: Material will be distributed in class, films will be shown and others can be borrowed from the Sullivan Library or a commercial source, the Internet will be amply used and contemporary issues can be drawn from the print or video media.

Expectations: Because there is no purchased text book, students can expect modest expense from making photocopies, movie rental, etc., not to exceed \$10.00. Students are expected to have access to the Internet, available through the Chaminade Computer Center. (On the first evening of class those students without an active account can obtain one, gratis.) Students should have access to a VCR either from their home, a friend, or the library.

Attendance: To honor the policies of the university, the Registrar must be notified if a student misses two consecutive classes. To obviate this, you should call and leave a message on either of the phone numbers listed above, preferably before class. Should circumstances prevent this information being transmitted before class, then call yourself, or have someone else leave a message the following day. Attendance is taken during each class.

9/98:1 RE330

RE 330 BIOMEDICAL ETHICS
FALL EVENING SESSION, 1997
PRELIMINARY COURSE OUTLINE

There are six major divisions of the course which can be pursued :

- 1) Issues surrounding the relationship between the health professional and the patient: autonomy, paternalism, current medical models, informed consent and the conflicting roles flowing from economics, triage, and interpersonal familial or professional imperatives.
- 2) Definitions surrounding death, the persistent vegetative state, the right to refuse treatment, advance directives, medical futility and the "right to die" scenarios, both in and out of the press.
- 3) Imperatives surrounding abortion, prenatal diagnosis, maternal-fetal complications, genetic data and conflicts and the role of the government.
- 4) Information surrounding the current research in reproductive technologies, new procedures, surrogate motherhood, issues in human genetic research and accomplishment, cloning and the ethics of genetic counseling.
- 5) Challenges surrounding experimental procedures on humans and/or animals, the ethics of clinical trials, the "use" of persons in new drug testing, and "The Legacy of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study."
- 6) Moral issues surrounding allocation of resources, social justice, health policy, the competing frameworks of health care reform, the distribution of treatments by age, need, wealth and decisions of rationing, organ donation and allocation, the complications of alcoholism or other chronic abusive patterns prior to the medical intervention.

These topics flow from the material in the text. Following the first class, decisions will be made which topics will be covered by the students (each one's choice) and which material will be addressed in the lecture part of each class. Once that discussion has occurred, a finalized course outline will be distributed and each student can fill in his/her own calendar according to expectations.

Dr. Chatfield, M.M

BASIC OUTLINE FOR CLASS PRESENTATION AND PAPER
RE 330

1. Decide on your topic
 - Be sure you are interested
 - Be sure there is enough material to present
 - Be clear about the Bioethical focus
 - Be sure you can narrow the topic to make it a "learnable" experience for the listener or the reader.
2. Decide on which will take precedence for you:
 - Presenting orally --- give to the class with concise report for the professor (full length paper need not be presented)
 - Presenting in written form --- hand in master copy of paper (max ten pages) with professor giving an outline for critique.
 - Presenting a diskette of your material with other students and professor responding.
3. Class makes schedule together according to time and dates mutually acceptable

Appointment with professor set up if needed before (to make sure you are on the right track) or after (to catch up with what was a concern, a challenge or a kudo)
4. This operation will be 50% of class grade.
5. Other 50% is divided to your advantage between:
 - Participation in class
 - Open book papers
 - Quick questions (also open book) but unexpected.
6. So let it be done!
7. Expect a "C because that is expected.
Know you can get a "B" Because it takes focus and work and Being there
Earn an "A" with All you can do that is beyond the usual 'finish the assignments' mentality.
8. And now.....let us begin.