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Chaminade University of Honolulu

Religion 330 ^{3B} **Biomedical Ethics** Winter 2000 **Tripler AMC** Mondays 17:30-21:40

Instructor: James (Andy) Stroble, Ph.D. E-mail: stroble@hawaii.edu Phone: 988-5764

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Examines Christian perspectives on ethical issues in the fields of biology, medicine, and the life sciences. The goals are to assist the students to develop an understanding of the personal and social dimensions of these ethical perspectives, methods for dealing with relevant ethical issues, and the historical development of the Christian communities' reflections and moral teachings in this area of study. Fulfills interdisciplinary course requirement. Offered alternate years. Prerequisites: RE 103, RE 200 permission of instructor.

TEXT: *Ethical Issues in Modern Medicine*, Fifth Edition, John D. Arras and Bonnie Steinbock, eds., Mountain View, California: Augustfield Publishing, 1999.

OBJECTIVES

Students will achieve increased dexterity in moral questions presented by medical and technological advances. The first step in doing so is a basic understanding of ethical theory, especially those inspired by religious traditions. The second step is recognizing the domains of ethical responsibility, the personal, the professional, and the social. And finally, the third step is developing the ability to relate theory to practice, to evaluate ethical positions, and to develop a defensible position of one's own.

EVALUATION

Regular attendance at class sessions is essential to success in this course. Participation will count towards 20% of grade. Students will lead class discussion on an assigned a topic (20%), undergo a mid-term examination (20%), and write a paper of 10-12 pages (40%) on a relevant topic of their choice (with approval of instructor).

Calendar

Specific readings to be assigned in class.

January 8: First class Quick introduction to Ethical Theory

January 15 HOLIDAY-NO CLASS

January 22 Patient-Professional relation: Duties

January 29 Patient-Professional relation: Consent, and Conflict.

February 5 Euthanasia, Death, Dying.

February 12: Contraception, Abortion, Procreative autonomy and Responsibility.

February 19 HOLIDAY-NO CLASS

February 26 Reproductive Technologies. **Mid-term Exam**

March 5 Cloning: Of Mice and Sheep (and Pigs!)

March 12 Human Experimentation

March 19 Distributive Justice: Allocation of medical care.

March 21 WEDNESDAY!! Last class. **Final Paper due.** (Notice that the last class is on a Wednesday.)