**BIOMEDICAL ETHICS**

Professor Coleen Macnamara

Email: coleenm@ucr.edu

Office Hours: HMNSS 3201, Friday 12:45-1:45 and by appointment

**Course Requirements:**

*Paper*: You are required to write a 700 word paper which will make up 16% of your final grade.

If you want to dispute your grade on the paper, you must do so within one week of your paper being returned. The required procedure is as follows. Give your TA an exactly one-page essay on why you think you deserve a different grade. Your TA will read your essay and take another look at your paper. If you still have concerns after the second round of grading, speak to your TA and he/she will talk to me. I will take a look at your paper and let you know what I decide.

Late papers will be marked down 1/3 of a grade (e.g., from a B- to C+) for each day past their due date.

*Exams*: There will be two exams. The first exam will make up 30% of your grade, the second 40%.

If you want to dispute your grade on an exam, you must do so within one week of your paper being returned. The required procedure is as follows. Give your TA an exactly one-page essay on why you think you deserve a different grade. Your TA will take another look at your exam and decide whether or not you deserve a different grade. If you still have concerns after the second round of grading, speak to your TA and he/she will talk to me. I will take a look at your exam and let you know what I decide.

*Class Attendance*: Lecture attendance is required and will make up 7% of your grade. You have three free absences. After three absences your class participation grade will drop 30% for each absence. We will be using clickers in the class. Your answers to questions that I ask during the lecture will be used to document your presence in the class.

If you forget your clicker or your clicker runs out of batteries (or otherwise fails to function), then at the end of class hand your TA a sheet of paper that includes the answers to the clicker questions, your name, section, and the date. This will be allowed two times. After that, if you forget your clicker, or if your clicker runs out of batteries (or otherwise fails to function), you will be marked absent for the day.

*Discussion Section Participation and Attendance:* Discussion section attendance and participation are required and will make up 7% of your grade. Your TAs will discuss how grades will be calculated.

**Required Course Materials:**

*Readings:* All readings are available on iLearn. Please print the readings out and bring hard copies to class and discussion section.

*Clickers*: We will be using clickers in this course. Clickers are required, and you are expected to bring them to every class.

*PowerPoint:*  I will make my PowerPoint presentation available on iLearn by 5:00pm the day before lecture. You are required to print out the presentation and bring it to class with you.

*Pen and Paper:* Please do not bring laptop computers to class. Take notes with a pen and paper. If there are special circumstances, please see me.

Also, your phones should be put away during class.

**Academic Integrity**

We expect you to act with Academic Integrity. For details visit *http://conduct.ucr.edu/learnPolicies/Pages/AcademicIntegrity.aspx*

**Reading Assignments**

**Unit One: Death & Dying: Bioethics at the End of Life**

**April 3rd:** Introduction

**April 5th – 7th:** Euthyphro

**April 10th – 14th:**Informed Consent

Boyle, *The Process of Informed Consent*

*Canterbury v. Spence*

**April 17th – 19th:** Refusing Life-Sustaining Treatment & Comas

*Bouvia v. Superior Court*, California Court of Appeals

*Cruzan v. Director; Missouri Department of Health*

**April 21th – 26th:** Physician-Assisted Suicide

Quill, *Death and Dignity: A Case of Individualized Decision Making*

*Vacco v. Quill*

*Washington v. Glucksberg*

*Oregon Death with Dignity Act*

**Unit Two: Enhancements & Research Ethics**

**April 28th – May 3rd:** Cognitive Enhancements

Schermer, *On the Argument that Enhancement Is ‘‘Cheating’’*

Discussion of how to write the paper (TAs will read a draft of

your paper if you want)

**May 5th:** **Midterm Exam**

**May 8th – 15th:**  Research Ethics

Pence, *The Tuskegee Study*

Carse & Little, *Exploitation and the Enterprise of Medical Research*

**Unit Three: Bioethics & The Beginning of Life**

**May 17th – 24th:** Moral Status

Jaworska and Tannenbaum, *The Grounds of Moral Status*

**Paper due May19th**

**May 26th – 31st:** Abortion

*The Gift*

Thomson, *A Defense of Abortion*

Little, *The Morality of Abortion*

**June 2nd – 5th:** Selective Abortion

Asch & Wasserman, *Where is the Sin in Synecdoche?*

Baily, *Why I Had Amniocentesis*

**June 7th – 9th:**Catch up and Review

**June 12th:** Final Exam

7:00 pm