

## **Bioethics: The Human Experience in a Rapidly Changing World**

Preliminary Schedule/Outline of Topics. Included is a significant number of topics, but they have fit nicely into a semester every year we taught Bioethics at the Law School.

Week 1: General principles of ethics, relationship of ethics to law and medicine, approaches to ethics and ethical decision-making

Week 2: Relationship between provider and patient to include informed consent and refusal, apology laws, institutional responsibilities and liability, rationing, access to “futile” treatments, access to unproven treatments, Insurance

Weeks 3, 4, and 5: Death and dying to include advance directives, medical assistance in dying, withdrawal of treatment, rights of conscience for providers, definition of death

Weeks 6, 7, and 8: Reproductive rights and technologies to include IVF and other assisted reproduction, definition of personhood, definition of parenthood, abortion, abortion for sex or characteristics, pre-implantation selection of embryos for sex or characteristics, rights/responsibilities of surrogates and egg/sperm donors, rights/responsibilities of gestational parents, CRISPR, forced sterilization, eugenics, unused frozen embryos, wrongful life and birth, cloning, access to contraception, definition of family, maternal-fetal conflict

Week 9: Use of resources, to include transplantation, scarcity, rationing of health care

Week 10: Human subjects research, informed consent to experimentation, ownership of pathology specimens (Henrietta Lacks), scientific research ethics, research involving vulnerable populations, abuses in experimental designs/models

Week 11: Parental rights to consent or refuse for their children, creation of donor siblings, children’s assent vs consent

Week 12: Confidentiality, privacy, mandatory reporting, use of genetic information in hiring and insuring decisions

Weeks 13 and 14: Paper presentations

News of the Day: Students in rotation will bring a topic discovered in the news, from any source, for presentation and discussion at each class meeting.

We anticipate 2 papers. The first will be a short piece, around midterm. The second will be a longer paper at the semester’s end, and will include a presentation to the class. The topics will be those of the students’ choosing, but must be cleared by the professors to determine relevance and to avoid duplication.

## **Bioethics: The Human Experience in a Rapidly Changing World**

Preliminary Schedule/Outline of Topics. Included is a significant number of topics, but they have fit nicely into a semester every year we taught Bioethics at the Law School.

Week 1: General principles of ethics, relationship of ethics to law and medicine, approaches to ethics and ethical decision-making

Week 2: Relationship between provider and patient to include informed consent and refusal, apology laws, institutional responsibilities and liability, rationing, access to “futile” treatments, access to unproven treatments, Insurance

Weeks 3, 4, and 5: Death and dying to include advance directives, medical assistance in dying, withdrawal of treatment, rights of conscience for providers, definition of death

Weeks 6, 7, and 8: Reproductive rights and technologies to include IVF and other assisted reproduction, definition of personhood, definition of parenthood, abortion, abortion for sex or characteristics, pre-implantation selection of embryos for sex or characteristics, rights/responsibilities of surrogates and egg/sperm donors, rights/responsibilities of gestational parents, CRISPR, forced sterilization, eugenics, unused frozen embryos, wrongful life and birth, cloning, access to contraception, definition of family, maternal-fetal conflict

Week 9: Use of resources, to include transplantation, scarcity, rationing of health care

Week 10: Human subjects research, informed consent to experimentation, ownership of pathology specimens (Henrietta Lacks), scientific research ethics, research involving vulnerable populations, abuses in experimental designs/models

Week 11: Parental rights to consent or refuse for their children, creation of donor siblings, children’s assent vs consent

Week 12: Confidentiality, privacy, mandatory reporting, use of genetic information in hiring and insuring decisions

Weeks 13 and 14: Paper presentations

News of the Day: Students in rotation will bring a topic discovered in the news, from any source, for presentation and discussion at each class meeting.

We anticipate 2 papers. The first will be a short piece, around midterm. The second will be a longer paper at the semester’s end, and will include a presentation to the class. The topics will be those of the students’ choosing, but must be cleared by the professors to determine relevance and to avoid duplication.