This course explores four areas of lively current debate in bioethics: enhancement and genetic engineering, the allocation of scarce health care resources, markets in organs, and clinical research, especially in resource-deprived settings. It aims to help you to develop your skills at identifying, criticizing, and constructing philosophical arguments in bioethics.

**Texts:**

All readings are available as PDF files on the ELMS (Blackboard) site for this course. It is your responsibility to download and print them. There is no textbook. Scheduled readings might change as the course progresses. Changes will be announced.

**Requirements:**

One presentation/paper, two take-home exams, and a final paper. You will also be graded on your in-class participation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Grade Component</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presentation/Paper</td>
<td>Sign up during 2nd class period for presentation date.</td>
<td>20% of grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>Based on presentation; due July 10</td>
<td>25% of grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take Home Exam 1</td>
<td>Due June 29</td>
<td>20% of grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take Home Exam 2</td>
<td>Due July 10</td>
<td>20% of grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Class Participation</td>
<td>Attendance is crucial</td>
<td>15% of grade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Academic integrity:**

The University of Maryland Honor Pledge reads: “I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment/examination.” The Pledge statement should be handwritten and signed on the front of your exams and papers. Students who fail to write and sign the Pledge will be asked to confer with the instructor.
The Student Honor Council identifies four types of academic dishonesty: cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes dishonesty of these four types. Please consult the Student Honor Council Website http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html or speak with the instructor if you would like any further clarification (e.g., on what constitutes plagiarism). Incidents of academic dishonesty will be taken very seriously. Any cases of it will be forwarded to the office of judicial programs.

**Presentation/Paper**

You must sign up for a date to give an in-class presentation based on a critique you write of a philosophical claim or argument defended in a reading we are scheduled to discuss on the date of your presentation. [No presentations will be scheduled on July 8.]

Your critique must be focused on at least one claim or argument that plays an important role in the reading. You need to clarify what the claim or argument amounts to before you set out your critique of it.

Before you give your presentation, you must email me a written version of it. The written version must be at least 5 pages in 12 point, double-spaced type. (Late texts will be accepted, but they will be penalized 1 full grade per day they are late. Only a university-approved excuse will free you from this penalty.)

The presentation should last 10-20 minutes. In giving your presentation, you should use some sort of visual aid, for example, PowerPoint slides or a handout. Please do not simply read your critique to the class.

**Final Paper**

The paper must be 7-10 pages and based on your presentation. In writing it, you should take into account the comments I send you regarding your presentation. Late papers will be accepted, but they will be penalized 1 full grade per day they are late. Only a university-approved excuse will free you from this penalty.

**Take-home exams:**

Take-home exams will be distributed approximately 2 days before exams are due. They will be made up of a series of questions, each with a word limit. Unless accompanied by a university-approved excuse, exams will be penalized one full grade for each day they are late.
Grading:

Your final grade will depend on the percentage you earn of the total points possible in the class: A+: 98-100; A: 94-97; A-: 90-93; B+: 87-89; B: 84-86; B-: 80-83; C+: 77-79; C: 74-76; C-: 70-73; D+: 67-69; D: 64-66; D-: 60-63. There will be no opportunities for extra credit. Failure to complete an assignment will result in your receiving no points (a zero) for that assignment.

Religious Observances:

You will not be penalized for any absence that results from religious observance. However, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor in advance of any intended absences for religious observance.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities should inform the instructor of their needs as soon as possible so that appropriate accommodations can be made.

Schedule:

(Readings might be altered as the course progresses. If there are any changes, they will be announced.)

June 22 Introduction

Enhancement and Genetic Engineering


June 24: Kamm, “Is There a Problem with Enhancement?”

June 25: Savulescu, “Procreative Beneficence: Why We Should Select the Best Children” and Greely et al, “Towards Responsible Use of Cognitive Enhancing Drugs by the Healthy”

Allocation of Health Care Resources


June 29: Broome: “Fairness”, Take-home exam 1 due

July 1: Daniels, “Justice, Health, and Healthcare” and Leonhardt “Health Care Rationing Rhetoric Overlooks Reality”

**Markets in Organs**

July 2: Hippen, “In Defense of a Regulated Market in Kidneys from Living Vendors”

July 6: Kerstein, “Autonomy, Moral Constraints, and Markets in Organs”

**Research Ethics**


July 8: Lurie and Wolfe, “Unethical trials of interventions to reduce perinatal transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus in developing countries”; Hawkins, “Brief Background to Clinical Research Ethics”; “Case Studies: The Havrick Trial and the Surfaxin Trial” [No presentations.]

July 9: Brody, “Ethical Issues in Clinical Trials in Developing Countries” Wertheimer, “Exploitation in Clinical Research”

July 10: Pogge, “Testing Our Drugs on the Poor Abroad”

**Take-Home exam 2 due; Final Paper due.**