

LAW, ETHICS AND THE LIFE SCIENCES

BIO 4073.001 (20025)

SPRING, 2007

TuTh 2:00 - 3:15

SB 2.03.08

CRAIG T. JORDAN, Ph.D., J.D.

January

16	Introduction to the course	CC 1
18	Abortion	CC 5
23	Constitutional and Common Law Protection of Privacy Interests and Personal Autonomy	Supp(3-20)
25	The Maternal - Fetal Conflict and Forced Sterilization Discrimination on the Basis of Race, Sex and Sexual Orientation	Supp(25-28)
30	Treating the Medical Problems of (Disadvantaged) Neonates	CC 9

February

1	Facilitated Reproduction I -- Phenotype Selection, In vitro Fertilization, Cryopreservation	CC 6
6	Facilitated Reproduction II -- Treatment of Gamete and Zygote, Surrogacy	CC 7, 8 Supp(70-78)
8	The Right to Die	CC 2, 3, Supp(39-53)
13	Assisted Dying	CC 4, Supp(54-59)
15	Human Experimentation	CC 11, Supp(79-84)
20	Human Stem Cell and Embryo Research and Fetal Tissue Transplantation and Experimentation	Supp(29-32)
22	Organ Donation and the Allocation of Scarce Medical Resources	CC 12, 13, 14 Supp(33-38)
27	Review	

March

1	First Exam (This exam will cover material through "Fetal Tissue...")	
6	Genetic Screening	CC 16
8	Genetic Engineering and Gene Therapy; Patenting the Human Genome	W3 1, Supp(85)
12-16	Spring Break -- No Class	
20	DNA Fingerprinting and Expert Scientific Witness Testimony in the Courtroom	
22	Medical Malpractice; Health Care Systems	CC 17, 18
27	Environmental Laws and Regulations	Supp(86-88)
29	Sierra Club v. Lujan (and water use in San Antonio); Animal Rights	W3 8, CC 10, W3 4

April

3	Public Interest in Environmental Protections and Individuals' Property Rights	W3 9 Supp(70)
5	Hazardous Materials, Environmental "Racism"	W3 10, 5, 6 (p. 86 etc.)
10	Clean Air and Water	W3 3, 6 (p. 179 etc.)
12	Review	
17	Second Exam (This exam will cover material through "Health Care System")	
19	Control of Human Population Growth	W3 2, Supp(89-93)
24	Scientific Misconduct	
26	"Scientific" Creationism and Religion in the Public Classroom	

May

1	Review	
3	Study Day -- No Class	
10(Th)	FINAL EXAM (10:30 - 11:45; even though we are allotted until 1:15 for our final exam, we will complete our exam by 11:45.	

(Check your final exam schedule for all your classes. You may find that you have an unmanageable number of finals scheduled for a single day. If so, make the appropriate adjustments now; do not try to reschedule final exams later. Occasionally the University adjusts its working hours because of inclement weather. If that impacts this course, consult 458-SNOW and the ASAP websites for information.)

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 8-11,(SB 4.02.40), and by appointment.

Textbook: There are three required textbooks for this course:

Classic Cases in Medical Ethics, Fourth Edition, (abbreviated "CC" above) by G.P. Pence

Watersheds 3 (abbreviated "W3" above), by Lisa Newton and Catherine Dillingham.

Law, Ethics and the Life Sciences: Supplemental Materials, (abbreviated "Supp" above) by C.T. Jordan

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory, but not recorded. You are responsible for any substantive or procedural information given in class. In the event you are absent from a class, do not look to the instructor to repeat for you personally what has already been presented to the larger class. When you are in attendance, please refrain from talking or engaging in any other behavior that may be distracting to fellow students. Audio headsets, PDS's and empowered mobile phones are not permitted in class. Laptop activity must be directly related to activity in this classroom. If you can not conform to these restrictions, you must leave the classroom. Continued enrollment in this class represents your agreement to these conditions.

Prerequisites: Junior or senior status, or consent of instructor.

Exams and Grading: There will be three exams. All three exams will be weighted equally and will be non-comprehensive. All three exams will be composed of multiple choice and true-false questions. For the exams, you will need to use a ParScore scantron. Should you arrive to take any exam after the first person to sit for the exam has left the room, you will not be permitted to take that exam, regardless of the amount of time remaining. Extra credit will be awarded depending upon your participation in class. In that regard, I encourage thoughtful questions, observations and attempts to answer specific questions. Examinations will ONLY be returned during class periods. Keep your scantrons until the end of the semester. Your scantron is the only record of your responses that will be graded.

Grades will be awarded as follows:

A: 85% and above B: 75 - 84% C: 65 - 74% D: 55 - 64% E: 54% and below

Be aware of the published deadline for withdrawing from the course and getting an automatic grade of W. After that date, if your grade average is an F, you will receive that grade as your final course grade.

Make-up Exams (those administered after the time of the scheduled exam): If you anticipate being absent for an exam, it may be possible to arrange for you to avoid taking a make-up exam and instead take the same exam that the rest of the class is scheduled to take but only if you arrange to take that exam prior to the scheduled exam time. Make-up exams are only available to (a) those that have made arrangements with me prior to the scheduled time of the exam, and (b) those who, within a few days of the missed exam, can substantiate that through no fault of their own they were unable to attend an exam as scheduled. ("Through no fault of their own" includes such things as illness, emergency military service and auto accident in route to class but does not include such things as absence due to penal incarceration, heavy traffic, misreading of the syllabus and oversleeping). A request for a make-up exam must be made in writing as soon as practicable after the missed exam. Evidence supporting your claim of no-fault will be required. A request for a make up does not automatically qualify you for a make-up exam; permission MUST be granted to those who the instructor determines meet the qualifications for a make-up exam. For those who do qualify and receive instructor approval to take a make-up exam, a sixty-question exam will be available in the Department of Biology office on April 24 and 25. That exam will cover the material that was the subject of the first two exams. You will need to provide a new scantron for that exam. WHILE THESE GUIDELINES WILL SERVE TO DEAL WITH MOST INSTANCES WHERE THE AVAILABILITY OF A MAKE-UP EXAM IS AT ISSUE, THE INSTRUCTOR RETAINS COMPLETE DISCRETION ABOUT THE ULTIMATE AVAILABILITY OF SUCH EXAMS.

Examination Instructions:

The following are the general instructions that will apply to your exams. I suggest that you read them carefully prior to coming to the exam so that you will have the maximum possible time to answer the exam questions and not be handicapped because of unfamiliarity with these instructions.

This exam is a closed-book exam. You are not to use any materials nor receive or give any assistance to another student while taking the exam. You are not to discuss the exam with any student in either section of this course until the graded exams are returned. Violation of these stipulations will result in a grade of zero on your exam. You are expected to be familiar with the University's honor code and will adhere to that code and be bound by its prescriptions.

1. You are to use an unwrinkled, ParSCORE scantron (F-1712-ERI-L).
2. Enter your name and three-digit ID number () in the last three spaces of the "ID Number" field on the scantron and darken the corresponding slots.
3. Darken the slot corresponding to your test form in the space provided on your scantron.
4. There should be no extraneous marks on your scantron; erasures should be clean.
5. There is a time limit on this exam. You will have seventy (70) minutes to complete the exam. This seventy-minute period will begin to run when the class is so instructed. Therefore, should you arrive late to the exam, you will still have to turn in your exam by the expiration of that same seventy fifty-minute time period. THE EXAM MUST BE PASSED IN BY THE END OF CLASS IN ORDER FOR IT TO BE GRADED.
6. For each question, choose the one best answer. Make a record of your selection on the question booklet and darken the corresponding slot on your scantron with a number 2 pencil AND INDICATE YOUR SELECTION ON YOUR EXAM BOOKLET.
7. Pass in your scantron as you leave; keep your exam booklet.

Receiving Exam and Course Grades:

You will not be able to receive your grades by telephone or e-mail.

Grades for the first two exams will be distributed in the classroom. In addition, you should determine your grades by inspecting the choices you selected on your exam booklet and following the directions published with the exam key that is distributed after taking the exam. Any dispute of the posted grade must be made promptly in writing.

Every student is expected to be familiar with The University's stance regarding scholastic dishonesty:

"The University expects every student to maintain a high standard of individual integrity for work done. Scholastic dishonesty is a serious offense which includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test or other class work, plagiarism (the appropriation of another's work and the unauthorized incorporation of that work in one's own work), and collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing college work offered for credit). In cases of scholastic dishonesty, the faculty member responsible for the class may initiate disciplinary proceedings against the student."

My position regarding scholastic dishonesty is that such behavior is intolerable. Among my obligations as a faculty member are that I am to do my best to assure that the performance of a student be evaluated fairly and that all students be treated similarly. Acts of scholastic dishonesty are inconsistent with both and will be dealt with severely.