



**BIOL 1V00.002**  
**Topics in Biological Sciences: Medical Ethics**  
**Spring 2014**  
**Course Syllabus**

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**Professor Information**

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**Course Prerequisites**

- Sophomore standing in the UT-PACT program or approval from UT-PACT administration
  - Proficiency in English grammar and citation and college-level reading and writing skills
  - Knowledge of the process to cite sources in AMA style
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**Course Description**

Medical Ethics (1 semester hour)—This course introduces students to ethic theories as they relate to medicine and health care. Students will investigate commonly referenced ethical theories—e.g., ethic of virtue, Kantianism, utilitarianism, feminism and ethic of care—and then discuss a variety of cases and how various ethical perspectives affect those cases. Topics will include current issues like healthcare access and insurance, euthanasia, genetic testing, and international research.

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**Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

To succeed in this class, you will

- recognize and summarize ethical theories;
  - understand and apply multiple perspectives and thus standards in clinical issues;
  - collaborate to analyze the ethical standards behind current affairs in healthcare;
  - construct effective arguments and justifications in your medical decisions;
  - research, analyze, and interpret medical topics and the ethical theories that relate to those topics; and
  - perform as professionals to prepare for discussions, meet deadlines, and submit quality work.
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**Texts to Access**

*In addition to the following texts, you will be assigned articles to read per the topic for each week's class. See the course calendar for these articles.*

American Medical Association. *AMA manual of style: A guide for authors and editors*. Available at <http://www.amamanualofstyle.com>. Accessibility verified January 7, 2014.

Becker LC, Becker CB. *A history of Western ethics*, 2nd ed. New York, NY: Routledge; 2003.

Groopman J. *How doctors think*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co; 2007.

Mol A. *The body multiple: Ontology in medical practice*. Durham, SC: Duke University Press; 2002.

Purdue Online Writing Lab. Medical writing. Available at <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/4/27>. Accessibility verified January 7, 2014.

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## Assignment Values

Assignment	Instructions for Submitting Assignment	Value
Attendance, Participation, and Discussion	No submission	200 pts
Response Paper 1 (2 pages, single-spaced)	Submit via turnitin.com	100 pts
Response Paper 2 (2 pages, single-spaced)	Submit via turnitin.com	100 pts
Response Paper 3 (2 pages, single-spaced)	Submit via turnitin.com	100 pts
Response Paper 4 (2 pages, single-spaced)	Submit via turnitin.com	100 pts
Response Paper 5 (2 pages, single-spaced)	Submit via turnitin.com	100 pts
Final Analysis Paper (8 pages, single-spaced)	Submit via turnitin.com	300 pts
<b>Total</b>		<b>1000 pts</b>

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## Grading Criteria

*Grades will not be rounded up.* Course assignments together are worth 1000 points, and students receive grades according to the following (standard UTD) scale:

930–1000 = A  
900–929 = A–  
870–899 = B+  
830–869 = B  
800–829 = B–  
770–799 = C+  
730–769 = C  
700–729 = C–  
670–699 = D+  
630–669 = D  
600–629 = D–  
0–599 = F

Grades in this class reflect whether you

- Fulfill objectives for the class and particular assignments;
- Employ rhetorical strategies that develop logical arguments, strong claims, and adequate supporting evidence;
- Support your ideas and arguments with analysis and evidence from credible sources;
- Use correct mechanics, strong style, and appropriate organization;
- Edit and proofread **all** work before you submit assignments;
- Manage your time wisely and effectively;
- Ethically present information address copyright, and correctly cite resources; and
- Present yourself professionally.

“A” reflects excellent work that meets all objectives in strength and analytical value. “B” reflects satisfactory work. “C” reflects work that fulfills course requirements but that contains issues that decrease the student’s effectiveness or indicate limited understanding. “D” reflects work that contains numerous issues and does not meet all course objectives. “F” reflects unacceptable work.

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## Course & Instructor Policies

*In addition to all UTD policies that students must know and follow (available at <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>), the following policies apply.*

### Make-up and Late Work

In this class, you are scholars as well as professionals in training. Professionals who miss deadlines present poor work ethics and damage their reputations as well as lose contracts, increase costs, delay results, decrease profits, and lose their jobs. *For these reasons, you may not submit late or incomplete work unless you are hospitalized and*

*provide a valid physician excuse.* Without exception, missed work results in a zero (0) on the assignment. You may not request an incomplete in this class unless you meet the university's criteria for an incomplete.

### **References, Copyright, and Plagiarism**

UTD has a no-tolerance policy for plagiarism, copyright infringement, or scholastic dishonesty (including missing citations). I support and enforce that policy in my classes. *If you do not cite your sources with in-text and end-of-text citations using AMA style or if you publish copyrighted work without permission, you will receive a referral to the Office of Judicial Affairs.*

### **Attendance**

Treat this class as you would a job: Attend class and be punctual. Tardiness interrupts the class and is rude to your classmates. You may miss one class without penalty; after one absence, you lose 20 points of your 1000-point grade for each absence. If you miss a class, you are responsible to contact classmates and learn what you missed.

UTD excuses absences for religious holidays; however, the student is responsible to inform the instructor *before* the holiday and to submit missed work *before* the absence.

UTD also excuses absences due to extreme illness (excused with a physician's note) or emergencies (hospitalization or death) involving a student's immediate family. The student must bring documentation to the instructor the first day back after the absence.

### **Email**

Each UTD student has a UTDallas.edu email account. The university provides this for all official communication, and students in this class will abide by that policy: to ensure security of official (class- and school-related) communication. Therefore, *all official email correspondence must go to and come from official UTD emails.* I do not read or answer emails that come through addresses from other providers.

**This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the professor.**