



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Philosophy

**PHIL 313 Lec 01
"Bioethics"
FALL TERM 2020**

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor Name: John A. Baker

Email: baker@ucalgary.ca

When emailing me please put "Phil 313" in the subject line of the email.

Office Hours: I will be available by Zoom for the 45 minutes before and after class.

Other times can also be arranged – email me to fix a time.

COURSE DELIVERY INFORMATION

The course delivery mode is synchronous. Classes will be delivered by Zoom at MW 15:30-16:45

PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for this course.

COURSE INFORMATION

The Calendar Course Description states:

A critical and analytical examination of ethical and legal problems arising in and about health care.

May include euthanasia, abortion, the conditions for the withdrawal of treatment, the physician-patient relationship, research on human subjects, genetic engineering. The practical applications of ethical and legal theory are emphasized.

The course will examine some current thinking about procedures by which such problems can and should be addressed and about the considerations that need to be taken into account in framing and applying those procedures. The details of the structures of these procedures, their strengths, and their limitations will be introduced and discussed through the reflective examination of a series of ethical cases.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course students should have

1. become familiar with the main current views **(a)** about procedures to be followed in figuring out what is ethically required, forbidden or permitted in health care contexts, **(b)** the main strengths and weaknesses of such procedures and **(c)** the considerations to be taken into account in framing and in applying such procedures;
2. become aware **(a)** of the main factors that can make applications of such procedures problematic in certain health care contexts and **(b)** of some strategies for disentangling the sources of such problems;
3. become familiar with the main current views **(a)** about how to analyze the main concepts needed for precise and clear framing of a representative sample of ethical issues in health care contexts, **(b)** about productive ways of setting out reasoning for and against ethical decisions in such contexts, and **(c)** about how such reasoning is to be assessed.

REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS, READINGS AND MATERIALS

1. Handouts and lecture summaries will be posted in D2L.
2. Required text: John Thomas, Wilfred J. Waluchow, and Elizabeth Gedge, *Well and Good: A Case Study Approach to Health Care Ethics*, 4th Edition, Broadview Press, ISBN 9781554811724.

The University bookstore has posted the following instructions for on-line ordering:

https://www.calgarybookstore.ca/textbook_express.asp?mode=2&step=2§ionIds=327882

COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

Assignments

1. Three case analyses (each with a maximum of 900 words).
2. A term paper (1000 words maximum, excluding footnotes and bibliography).
Descriptions of what is wanted in the above and lists of assigned readings will be posted in D2L.
3. Assignments are to be uploaded to this course's digital drop box in D2L.
4. There will be no registrar-scheduled final examination.

Due-dates:

- Case analysis 1: 11pm, October 2nd
- Case analysis 2: 11pm, October 23rd
- Case analysis 3: 11pm, November 20th
- Term Paper: 11pm, December 13th

Grading

1. Case analysis 1 will be worth 15% , case analyses 2 and 3 will be worth 25%,.
2. Later virtue in the three case analyses will be allowed to redeem earlier sin.
3. The term paper will be worth 35% of the final grade.
4. If an essay is submitted after the stated deadline, it will receive at most a B and then only if submitted by 11pm of the day after the due day: it will receive at most a C if submitted by 11pm of the day after that, and so on.
5. Percentages will be computed using the numbers set by the University as equivalent to the letter grades.

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. The student accommodation policy can be found at ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

Absence or Missed Course Assessments

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

Student Support and Resources

Full details and information about the following resources can be found at ucalgary.ca/Registrar/registration/course-outlines

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

Academic Advising

If you are a student in the Faculty of Arts, you can speak to an academic advisor in the Arts Students' Centre about course planning, course selection, registration, program progression and more. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit phil.ucalgary.ca. Further academic guidance is available by contacting David Dick (Undergraduate Program Director dgdick@ucalgary.ca) or Jeremy Fantl (Honours Advisor jfantl@ucalgary.ca). If you have questions regarding registration, please email Rebecca Lesser (Undergraduate Program Administrator phildept@ucalgary.ca).

Writing Assessment and Support

The assessment of all written assignments—and, to a lesser extent, written exam responses—is based in part on writing skills. This includes correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.), as well as general clarity and organization. Research papers must include a thorough and accurate citation of sources. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services for assistance. For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Required Technology

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Responsible Use of D2L

Important information and communication about this course will be posted on D2L (Desire2Learn), UCalgary's online learning management system. Visit ucalgary.service-now.com/it for how-to information and technical assistance.

All users of D2L are bound by the guidelines on the responsible use of D2L posted here: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/commitment-to-the-responsible-use-of-d2l/>. The instructor may establish additional specific course policies for D2L, Zoom, and any other technologies used to support remote learning. Instructional materials, including audio or video recordings of lectures, may not be posted outside of the course D2L site. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the [University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy](#).

Media Recording

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

Academic Misconduct/Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which will be an F on the assignment or an F in the course, and possibly a disciplinary sanction such as probation, suspension, or expulsion. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about referencing, please consult your instructor.

University Policies

The Instructor Intellectual Property Policy is available at ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip. The instructor (or TA) must return graded assignments *directly* to the student UNLESS written permission to do otherwise has been provided.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html).