

Bioethics Courses Spring 2019

Required Courses

BIE 702: Biomedical Research Ethics

A historical and conceptual survey of ethical, regulatory, and policy issues in biomedical research. Emphasis will be placed on research involving human subjects. Master of Arts students are required to take any 2 of the following 3 courses: Clinical Ethics, Biomedical Research Ethics, and Public Policy, Medicine, and Justice.

Ana Iltis

3 credits

Monday, 6:00-8:30pm

Davis House Seminar Room (2599 Reynolda Rd., corner of Polo and Reynolda Rd.)

BIE 704: Public Policy, Medicine & Justice

An examination of the organization of medicine and biomedical science in the United States today. The relationships between scientific and medical institutions and the implementation of public policies will be critically analyzed in light of the requirements of the principle of justice. Topics include conflicts of interest, broadly understood, within and between institutional and professional actors; the regulation of medical practice; access to health care; and the balance between the public good and market forces. Students will be required to take any 2 of the following 3 courses: Clinical Ethics, Biomedical Research Ethics, and Public Policy, Medicine, and Justice.

Nancy King

3 credits

Tuesday, 5:00-7:30pm

Rm. 3131 or Bioethics Commons; 525@Vine/Downtown

BIE 792: Thesis Research (1-6) - Various

Research directed toward fulfilling the thesis requirement. May be undertaken at any time, but full-time students are encouraged to begin thesis planning in the spring and complete the thesis during the summer term or the fall semester following completion of all course work.

Bioethics Electives Courses

BIE 690: Special Topics: Bioethics Then and Now

Each student enrolled in this special topic elective will choose a topic that is featured in the conference, and will research that topic from an historical perspective and as it appears today, tracing discussions of the topic through prominent journals and reflecting on how it has changed (or not) over time and how those changes reflect changes in bioethics and/or in society. Each student will also pick a speaker or moderator, review that scholar's body of work and career, and consider how that work reflects the field of bioethics. The schedule will be arranged with some flexibility on Thursdays plus required participation in a conference at Wake Forest on April 5, 2019 (more details on page 4).

Nancy King and Ana Iltis

3 credits

Thursday, 4:00 – 6:30 pm

Rm. TBD, Reynolda Campus

BIE 725: Health Law and Policy

This course examines the public policy and legal dimensions of the financing and regulation of health care delivery. Its focus is on how medical institutions (hospitals, insurers, HMOs) are structured and regulated, and how these institutions relate to their physicians and patients. Ongoing debate over health care reform is a main focus. The dominant theme is how law shapes and responds to the rapid economic and structural changes that are taking place in the health care sector. This course is cross listed as LAW 525.

Mark Hall

3 credits

Tuesday & Thursday, 2:30-3:50pm

Worrell Professional Center, Rm. 1310, Reynolda Campus

BIE 739: Neuroethics (Neurosciences and Ethics)

The past few decades have seen rapid developments in neuroscientific explanations of the brain. Can neuroscience also unlock the mystery of the human mind and moral behavior beyond the functions of the brain and the biological mechanisms behind brain diseases? This course will explore some hard questions about who we are and what we ought to do in the light of contemporary neuroscience, psychology and philosophy. Our inquiry will include the nature of free will, personal identity, self-deception, memory and selfhood, and the role of emotion in moral reasoning. This course is cross listed in the Divinity School.

Kevin Jung

3 credits

Wednesday, 2:00 – 4:30 pm

Wingate, Rm. 302, Reynolda Campus

BIE 731: Bioethics at Work: The IRB

Provides students with the opportunity to experience and understand human research oversight by attending Institutional Review Board (IRB) meetings, reviewing submitted protocols, and considering the ethical issues arising therein. Students assigned to a single IRB for a single semester will receive 1 credit. They will attend monthly meetings, meet periodically with course faculty and staff, and meet with IRB senior staff at the beginning and end of the semester. Students are also required to maintain and submit a journal of commentary on meetings and protocols and the ethical issues arising therein and an end of semester paper. Initial enrollment must be concurrent with enrollment in BIE 702: Biomedical Research Ethics or LAW 677/BIE 777: Health-Related Research. Additional credits may be earned by students who attend the meetings of more than one IRB or who continue attendance during the summer terms and for in the fall semester. Course may be repeated up to a maximum of 3 hours. Co-Requisite BIE 702 or LAW 677/BIE 777 POI.

Nancy King with Diane Behar

1-2 credits

BIE 733: Bioethics at Work: The Clinical Context

This course is designed to introduce students to central clinical ethics activities in health care facilities, including ethics consultation, ethics policy development and review, and continuing education in bioethics. In addition to weekly seminar classes, students will attend meetings of the Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center Clinical Ethics Committee and its standing subcommittees and continuing education conferences in bioethics. Students will meet with a variety of health care professionals to learn about their contribution to clinical ethics, will observe the process of clinical ethics consultation at WFBMC, and will study and practice ethics consultation skills. Course requires permission of instructor.

Prerequisite: BIE 705: Clinical Ethics.

John Moskop with Gerardo Maradiaga

3 credits

Wednesday, 5:30-8:00pm; plus additional meetings

Rm. 3022, Watlington Hall, Medical Center Campus

BIE 722: Research/Independent Study (1-3)

Students may work with a faculty member on a project of mutual interest. May be repeated for credit.

Special Topic Elective: Bioethics Then and Now (3 Credits; Nancy and Ana)

PREVIEW DRAFT FOR STUDENTS

A 3-credit elective with 35 contact hours:

The course can accommodate approximately 5-12 students.

The schedule will be arranged with some flexibility on Thursdays plus required participation in a conference at Wake Forest (see below).

Each student enrolled in this special topic elective will choose a topic that is featured in the conference, and will research that topic from an historical perspective and as it appears today, tracing discussions of the topic through prominent journals and reflecting on how it has changed (or not) over time and how those changes reflect changes in bioethics and/or in society. Each student will also pick a speaker or moderator, review that scholar's body of work and career, and consider how that work reflects the field of bioethics.

All students will be required to attend the full day of the conference. They will also be included in the Thursday preconference dinner if numbers permit.

Two medium-length papers will be assigned. There will also be a presentation requirement. The presentation can be based on either paper.

A probable schedule, with class sessions from 4-6:30 most days and extended sessions on some days:

Jan. 17: An introductory course overview session that includes discussion of several readings on the history of bioethics and choosing topics, journals, and scholars from prepared lists. During weeks without a class session, students will work on their research into topics and scholars.

Jan. 31: One bioethics on film session.

Feb. 14 or 21: One bioethics on film session.

March 7: One session on bioethics in popular culture, advertising, TV, popular movies, fiction, and mainstream media, addressing how the general public learns about and views bioethics topics.

April 4: Join the pre-conference dinner at Graylyn.

April 5: One 10-hour session, the conference itself.

April 11: Extended session, with dinner, for student presentations and post-conference discussion.

April 23: Attend lecture by Steven Pinker, Wait Chapel 7-8:30 pm. Readings on some of his views on bioethics will be assigned.

A near-final syllabus and the final conference schedule will be available for all potentially interested students later this semester. As is the case for all electives, a minimum number of students will need to be enrolled for the course to be offered.