
Course title: BIOETHICS

ECTS credit allocation (and other scores): 4

Semester: spring

Level of study: ISCED-6 - first-cycle programmes (EQF-6)

Branch of science: Humanities

Language: English

Number of hours per semester: 30

Course coordinator/ Department and e-mail: dr Marta Śliwa/ Institute of Philosophy, marta.sliwa@uwm.edu.pl

Type of classes: classes and lectures

Substantive content

CLASSES/ LECTURES:

1. Introduced to the subject and the organization of classes.
2. Basic problems and concepts of ethics, ethics and morality and law.
3. Ethical dilemma
4. Philosophical basis of bioethics:
Ethics of virtues, Ethics of compassion, Ethics of Conscience, Deontology, Utilitarianism, Case-study approach
5. Codes and law.
 - International Code of medical ethics.
 - European Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine
6. Professionalism: responsibility, boundaries of professional solidarity.
7. Before birth: Issues involving embryos and fetuses
8. Issues in reproduction
9. The new genetics
10. Life and death issues
11. Resource allocation
12. Organ donations
13. Global health-care issues
14. Experimentation with humans and animals

Learning purpose: This course is designed to introduce you to some of the central issues of ethics, especially to bioethics. By the end of the course you should be familiar with the major ethical theories relevant to professional practice and be able to apply these theories to ethical issues.

On completion of the study programme the graduate will gain:

Knowledge: A student knows most important theories and figures of moral philosophy. He/she also knows crucial terms and questions of ethics and how they have been treated.

Skills: A student knows how to analyze ethical questions from various ethical standpoints. He/she also knows how to do so in a critical way and how to construct sound arguments about what is right and wrong, good and evil.

Social Competencies: A student is supposed to acquire a deeper understanding of respect towards others, moral sensitivity and empathy as well as a better comprehension of egoism/altruism and subjectivism/objectivism distinction in social life.



Basic literature

1. . Kuhse, Helen, and Peter Singer, eds. A Companion to Bioethics. Oxford, UK; Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 1998. ISBN: 9780631197379
 2. Picture of Heath: the medical ethics and the movie, edited by Henri Colt, Silvia Quadrelli and Lester d. Friedman , Oxford University Press, 2011.
 3. Lock, Margaret. Twice Dead: Organ Transplants and the Reinvention of Death. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2001. ISBN: 9780520228146.
 4. Roberts, Dorothy. Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction and the Meaning of Liberty. New York, NY: Pantheon Books, 1997. ISBN: 9780679442264.
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Supplementary literature:

The allocated number of ECTS points consists of:

Contact hours with an academic teacher: 30 h

Student's independent work: 70h including: preparation to classes, preparation of presentation and final essay.