



Course Description

PHI3633 | Biomedical Ethics | 3.00 credits

This is a foundation course in biomedical ethics and ethical theory. Students will learn to use methods of effective reasoning to apply to topics in biomedical ethics. These topics may include, but are not limited to, genetic engineering, stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, and clinical research ethics.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of ethics and ethical theory by:

1. Defining key vocabulary terms relating to ethics and ethical theory
2. Identifying and explaining ethical theories such as Kantianism, utilitarianism, or hedonism
3. Articulating differences among various ethical theories

Competency 2: The student will apply ethical theory to the study of biomedical ethics by:

1. Analyzing issues in applied ethics, such as the various positions on genetic engineering, stem cell research, or human cloning
2. Articulating different theoretical frameworks for resolving biomedical ethical dilemmas
3. Identifying and explain the relationship between moral codes such as the Declaration of Helsinki or the Nuremberg Code and research practice
4. Articulating how various theories would resolve ethical dilemmas differently

Competency 3: The student will apply critical thinking to the study of biomedical ethics by:

1. Examining and evaluating arguments for and against various biomedical ethical issues in society
2. Examining and evaluating the arguments for and against the positions and theories discussed
3. Creating a coherent analysis of the ethical issues involved in the various topics

Learning Outcomes:

- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society