

Biomedical Ethics MEDS4035 Syllabus
University of Cincinnati Medical Science Programs
Fall 2021 Thursdays: 3:30pm-4:30pm, 1 credit hour.

Zoom online synchronous meeting

<https://ucincinnati.zoom.us/j/95599741744>

Meeting ID: 955 9974 1744

Instructors: Holly Bante, PhD Cate Sherron, PhD

Course Description: This course introduces students to the ethical dimensions of clinical medicine and offers them the basic language and methodology with which to critically examine these dimensions. The course format integrates lecture and active case discussion to provide both the necessary philosophical grounding and the real-world skills sought by students. The course will provide an introduction to basic ethical theory and various approaches to clinical ethical decision-making.

Key issues for fall Humanity, Justice, & Morality of Medicine; Informed consent; Health care reform; Health disparities.

Key issues for spring (possible topics; spring course will build on fall work)

Truth-telling and medical error. Conscientious objection. Pediatric ethics. Provider mental health & burnout. Death & dying. Futility. Advanced directives. Assisted suicide. PVS. Opioids & addiction. Genetic engineering.

Course Objectives

1. Students will become familiar and able to **apply basic ethical concepts, foundational principles, norms, and concepts** important to ethical decision-making in health care. This means taking what is learned from Sandel's Justice course and learning how to apply in health care and medicine.
2. Students will become familiar with some of the **most important ethical issues related to health, medicine, and health care** that they will be faced with as citizens and in their subsequent professional careers. Some of this comes directly from Sandel, other issues will arise from supplemental readings, discussions, as well as current events.
3. Students will **identify reasons for conflicting positions** regarding ethical issues and cases, **apply a decision-making method**, and **engage in a respectful, caring, and democratic discourse** on issues where there is profound and passionate disagreement. The bulk of this analysis and discussion will happen on the discussion board and in your small groups.

Course Requirements -- Assignments

Sandel's *Justice* Course 20% + 15% = 35%

- Each student individually will complete the Sandel course actively watching and learning from the video lectures. See Sandel module in Canvas.
 - For most lectures each student will complete an assignment to demonstrate engagement with the course material. That assignment will consist of a small quiz or a group discussion response. **15%**
- Each assigned "TeamWork" group will cover a single lecture by creating 2-3 **questions** on this week's material to facilitate small group discussions on Thursdays. **20%**

GRACE case analysis (Group Work) 40%

- Groups of 6-7 students as assigned by professors (see awesome chart below of TeamWork Groups). Group leaders are primarily to help faculty communicate with the group. Might also need to supply virtual snacks for their groups...
- GRACE Case Analysis (#1 @15%, #2 @ 25%). Following the GRACE decision-making model (which will be demonstrated and discussed in class early in the semester), groups will submit a case write-up towards the end of the semester.

Discussion board posts 25%

- Each student posts to Introductions, Current events, Good news, end of term reflections, Sandel highlights
 - Current events: Locally, regionally, nationally, internationally

All work is due Wednesday evenings by midnight. No late work will be accepted.

Current Events: Students are expected to become aware of and share events that are shaping our world, nation, state, and local area involving healthcare ethics. At the beginning 3-5 minutes of each class period, the instructors might ask students to share any comments or questions that they may have about any event(s) being reported in the news and/or social media. There will also be a discussion board section for additional material and discussion.

Attendance and Class Participation

This class will run in a seminar format; most of our classroom time will be devoted to class discussion. Each participant in this class is expected to make regular, thoughtful contributions that reflect a careful, critical review of material assigned. Contributions could be in the Zoom class as well as on the Discussion Board, but there is flexibility depending on your learning style, comfort with the medium, etc.. You should view yourself as both a student and a teacher, and prepare for each class accordingly. This course will be worthwhile to the degree that each participant takes seriously her or his responsibility to come to class prepared. Good contribution can take many

forms, but keep in mind that more does not necessarily mean better. Sometimes even very brief comments or questions can do much to move a conversation forward and you will be rewarded for these. On the other hand, being domineering or disrespectful will not help your participation grade and may hurt it.

Since you cannot participate if you are not in class, more than 2 unexcused absences will lower your final grade by one letter grade. We recognize that classroom participation is difficult for some students, and perhaps especially so in a class like this that will be discussing complex and controversial issues (so contribute more on the blog!). But the ability to contribute to a public discussion will be an absolutely essential skill to your success in any profession and we will work to make this classroom a place where everyone feels comfortable to speak (see Classroom Etiquette Policy).

Course Policies

Office Hours

Dr. Bante (virtually via Teams) Thursdays before & after class: 2:30-3:30, 4:30-5:30 and by appointment. Holly.Bante@uc.edu

Dr. Sherron (virtually via Zoom) Thursdays before & after class: 2:30-3:30, 4:30-5:30 and by appointment. sherroc@thomasmore.edu

Instructor Feedback

Please allow instructors at least 24 hours to respond to all email inquiries. For questions and feedback concerning assignments, papers, and readings, please submit questions at least 72 hours before the assignment/paper/reading is to be due or given.

“Classroom” Etiquette Policy

As aspiring health care leaders, students need to approach this course as professionals at all times. Consistent with the course requirements and expectations, as well as the competencies the course is designed to help students develop, you will be expected to submit all assignments by their due dates, attend all required class sessions, arrive to class prepared and on time, remain for the full class time, pay attention, contribute thoughtfully to class discussions, be respectful of and courteous to others, and use technology appropriately. The issues that we will be discussing are both controversial and personal for many of us. This means that all participation must be respectful of other viewpoints and beliefs. See also Civil Discourse guidelines under Course Basics Module in Canvas.

Changes to Syllabus

The instructors reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus. It is the responsibility of all students to keep up to date with changes. If a student misses class, it is the student’s responsibility to find out whether any announcements were made in class.

Academic Accommodations

Students who believe that, due to the impact of a disability, they may need academic accommodations in order to meet the requirements of this, or any other, class at the University of Cincinnati are encouraged to contact Accessibility Resources by calling 556-6823, by sending an email to disabiv@ucmail.uc.edu, or by visiting 210 University Pavilion. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Course instructors support student accommodation requests when an approved letter from Accessibility Services has been received and when students discuss these accommodations with the instructor after receipt of the approved letter. Please help your instructors understand your particular needs especially as we navigate through this pandemic teaching environment.

Academic Integrity

In keeping with university policies on matters of academic integrity, plagiarism in any form or other acts of academic dishonesty will be dealt with severely. The penalty for academic dishonesty will begin with a failing grade for the assignment. Additional disciplinary steps may be taken in accord with the guidelines and procedures established by the University, which are described at <http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/conduct/docs/SCOC.pdf> Bottom line: it is an ethics course; you are aspiring professionals; don't cheat. Really, just aim to always make good choices.

Title IX

Title IX is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of your actual or perceived sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Title IX also covers sexual violence, dating or domestic violence, and stalking. If you disclose a Title IX issue to the instructor, TA or any UC employee, they are required forward that information to the Title IX Office. The Title IX Office will follow up with you about how the University can take steps to address the impact on you and the community and make you aware of your rights and resources. Their priority is to make sure you are safe and successful here. You are not required to talk with the Title IX Office. If you would like to make a report of sex or gender -based discrimination, harassment or violence, or if you would like to know more about your rights and resources on campus, you can consult the website www.uc.edu/titleix or contact the office at 556-3349.

Counseling Services, Clifton Campus

Students have access to counseling and mental health care through the University Health Services (UHS), which can provide both psychotherapy and psychiatric services. In addition, students can receive three free professional counseling sessions upon request through the Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). These sessions are not associated with student's insurance coverage. Students are encouraged to seek assistance for anxiety, depression, trauma/assault, adjustment to college life, interpersonal/relational difficulty, sexuality, family conflict, grief and loss, disordered eating and body image, alcohol and substance abuse, anger management, identity development and issues related to diversity, concerns associated with sexual orientation and spirituality

concerns, as well as any other issue of concerns. After hours, students may call UHS at 513-556-2564 or CAPS Cares at 513-556-0648. For urgent physician consultation after-hours students may call 513-584-7777.

Fall 2021 online

Date	Topic	Material Sandel course & lectures link here.	Group Assignments
26Aug W1	Intro to course & GRACE	GRACE Clinical Decision-making Model Trolley Problem Supplemental Background on “Bioethics”	All
Module released Monday 24 Aug; assignments due Weds 1 Sept midnight			
2Sept W2	Foundations in ethical theory Utilitarianism	Sandel Lectures 1 & 2 (55 min) Ethical Theory & GRACE handouts Supplemental: Utilitarianism	All
Module released Thurs 26 Aug; assignments due Weds 8 Sept midnight			
9Sept21 W3	Utilitarianism Bentham & Mill	Sandel 3 & 4 (55 min) <i>Triage</i>	G1 on lecture 3 G2 on lecture 4
Module released Thurs 2 Sept; assignments due Weds 15 Sept midnight			
16Sept W4	Libertarianism	Sandel 5 Free to Choose & 6 Who Owns Me? <i>Health Care Reform</i> (financial implications)	G3 lecture 5 G4 on 6
Module released Thurs 9 Sept; assignments due Weds 22 Sept midnight			
23Sept W5	Locke Property & consent	Sandel 7 This Land is Your Land & 8 Consenting Adults. <i>Testing on human subjects – Vaccines</i>	G5 lecture 7 G6 lecture 8
Module released Thurs 16 Sept; assignments due Weds 29 Sept midnight			
30Sept W6	Civic Duty Conscription, what \$ can’t buy	Sandel 10 Motherhood <i>Surrogacy, informed consent</i>	G7 lecture 10 #1GRACE case

	Module released Thurs 23 Sept; assignments due Weds 6 Oct midnight		
7Oct W7	Kant	Sandel 11 Mind Your Motive & 12 Sp. Principle of Morality <i>Decisional capacity?</i>	G8 lecture 11 G9 lecture 12
	Module released Thurs 30 Sept; assignments due Weds 13Oct midnight		
14Oct W8	Rawls	Sandel 13 Lesson in Lying & 14 A Deal is a Deal	G10 lecture 13 G11 lecture 14
	Module released Thurs 7Oct; assignments due Weds 20 Oct midnight		
21Oct W9	(no Sandel) Ethical dilemmas Health care reform	1. <i>Answering ethical questions in MMI interviews</i> 2. <i>Is health care a right? Is it ethical for a society to allow unequal access to health care?</i> - JAMA article	Dr. Menon guest
	Module released Thurs 14 Oct; assignments due Weds 27Oct midnight		
28Oct W10	Aristotle	Sandel 18 What's the Purpose Supplemental: Virtue ethics https://www.khanacademy.org/partner-content/wi-phi/wiphi-value-theory/wiphi-good-life/v/the-good-life-aristotle	G12 lecture 18
	Module released Thurs 21 Oct; assignments due Weds 3 Nov midnight		
4Nov W11	The Good Citizen	Sandel 19 The Good Citizen & 20 Freedom vs. Fit	G13 lecture 19 G14 lecture 20
	Module released Thurs 28 Oct; assignments due Weds 10 Nov midnight		
11Nov W12		Veterans Day Holiday – no class <i>Last blog: How are you? What are you grateful for? Good news? What have you overcome? Give an example of when you have been grateful for both the dark and the light in your life?</i>	
	Module released Thurs 4 Nov; assignments due Weds 17 Nov midnight		
18Nov W13	Community	Sandel 21 Claims of Community <i>Obligations to each other</i>	G15 lecture 21
	Module released Thurs 11 Nov; no assignments due		
25Nov21 W14	No class	Thanksgiving break – no class	#2GRACE case
	Module released Thurs 18 Nov; assignments due *Thurs* 3 Dec midnight		

2Dec21 W15	The Good Life	Sandel 24 The Good Life Final reflection discussion posts <i>Next semester</i>	Sherron & Bante
Finals 6-11 Dec	<i>Materials & methods (course review)</i>		All students respond

Student Groups

Sherron: even # groups **Bante:** odd # groups

Student Group	Students (group leader green bolded) 6-7 students/group	Faculty Leader	Small Group Facilitators for Sandel	Topic / Date of Class Discussion
G1	Shivane Chawla, Eva Hanson, Jessica Langenkamp, Anjali Mistry, Anya Thumma, Derek Walton, Noah Webb	Bante	Episode 3	Utilitarianism “Putting a Price Tag on Life” 9 Sept
G2	Ashley Douglas, Hailey Kramer, Shruti Mishra, Rishav Mukherjee, Khanh Tran, Kristina White, Itamar Zmora	Sherron	Episode 4	Utilitarianism con’t “How to Measure Pleasure” 9 Sept
G3	Arhama Ahmed, Megha Battina, Devyn Gaskins, Alexis Gemelas, Aneesh Kathula, Suhas Kolli, Elyse Martin	Bante	Episode 5	Libertarianism “Free to Choose” 16 Sept
G4	Jackson Alexander, Selma Babiker, Teagan Benedict, Anusha Kalavacharla, Claire Keum, Manav Mathur	Sherron	Episode 6	Libertarianism “Who Owns Me?” 16 Sept
G5	Morgan Dent, Sarah Geraghty, Brendan Louderback, Shivani Patel, Anish Sharma, Jennifer Trannguyen	Bante	Episode 7	Locke “This Land is Your Land” 23 Sept
G6	Emma Baah-Binney, Charlotte Kirchhoff, Marlee McMahan, Lin Abigail Tan, Ashley Willicut, Sanjana Yerubandi	Sherron	Episode 8	Locke “Consenting Adults” 23 Sept
G7	Sudarsana Addepalli, Nadia Alam, Patrick Casanas, Keerthana Senthil, Ajit Venkatakrishnan, Emily Wysocki	Bante	Episode 10	Civic Duty “Motherhood” 30 Sept
G8	Saagar Chokshi, Kathryn Juliani, Rishi Mehta, Sean Percival, Maanas Pisati, Anna Vogel	Sherron	Episode 11	Kant “Mind Your Motive” 7 Oct

G9	Megan Chinn, Steven Kunz, Miranda McKinney, Osheen Oommen, Sanjeeth Rajaram, Olivia Spaulding	Bante	Episode 12	Kant “Sup. Principle of Morality” 7 Oct
G10	Ahmed Ashraf, Lily Clark, Annie Metzger, Megha Mohanakrishnan, Tanner Schmidt, Heather Wardwell	Sherron	Episode 13	Rawls “Lesson in Lying” 14 Oct
G11	Vishaal Balamurugan, Milan Parikh, Sai Reddy, Alexandra Rioch, Maud Sonzogni, Nithya Trichy	Bante	Episode 14	Rawls “A Deal is a Deal” 14 Oct
G12	Sachi Bhati, Marianne Emmert, Hannah Kim, Micah Pistillo, Zach Ritzenthaler, Samuel Thompson	Sherron	Episode 18	Aristotle “What’s the Purpose?” 28 Oct
G13	Makul Sharma, Michael Smith, Reece Swoverland, Abbi Wells, Aaron Williams, Catherine Xu	Bante	Episode 19	The Good Citizen “The Good Citizen” 4 Nov
G14	Rohan Bellary, Sydney Bevelhimer, Fatima Khan, Josie Link, Ananya Reddy, Neil Sarkar	Sherron	Episode 20	The Good Citizen “Freedom vs. Fit” 4 Nov
G15	Sahaja Ampolu, Shwetha Bindhu, Angelo Bucci, Toney Deboodt, Omair Khan, Anshul Tyagi	Bante	Episode 21	Community “Claims of Community” 18 Nov