

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

74-2030  
Philosophy of Medicine

Instructor: J. Harvey

Fall 2010

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course will examine specific topics in the area of medical ethics and also look at the role of foundational ethics in these examinations. The course will select from such topics as: truth-telling in medical situations; confidentiality; euthanasia and the elderly; organ transplants; mental illness; suicide; human experimentation; surrogate motherhood; non-voluntary sterilization; geriatric care; and the distribution of scarce medical resources. A tentative order of topics will be posted.

**LAPTOP FREE COURSE:**

No laptops are allowed in the classroom without the written permission of the instructor. Such permission will be given only when the request is supported by documentation from CSD establishing the need for the use of a laptop.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Gregory E. Pence, *Classic Cases in Medical Ethics*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. (New York: McGraw Hill, 2011).  
----[N.B. 6<sup>th</sup> ed.]

**EVALUATION:**

Students are advised that attending all classes, keeping detailed lecture notes, and working on those notes (in ways that will be explained) are crucial in achieving a passing grade in the course, and each student is responsible for taking and working on his/her own detailed class-notes. The class-content is the most important part of the course and does not duplicate the readings.

First In-Class Exam	30%
Second In-Class Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%

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**THE IN-CLASS EXAMS: PLEASE NOTE** that since these are both given in class-times, no provision will be made for “alternate times”. E.g., if some of your other courses schedule events that are expected to occur at times when *this* course holds classes (class-times you have already committed to by registering in this course), then these regular class-times are the first commitment and alternative times for these exams will not be provided.

**FINAL EXAM: PLEASE NOTE the following regulation from the Undergraduate Calendar:**  
“Students are advised that the Final Examination schedules are available for Fall Semester by mid-

August, for Winter Semester by mid-December, and for Summer Semester by mid-April. Students are required to consult the final examination timetable in order to avoid conflicts in examination times when adding courses. Written approval must be obtained from the dean or director and the instructor-in-charge of the course to register in courses that have conflicting examination times.”

The Final Exam for this course will not be re-scheduled or given at an alternative time (except for documented cases that fall within the university provisions). If there is a conflict of Final Exam times, it will be necessary to adjust your course selection and schedule.

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**SECTION OF THE COURSE:** If there are two or more sections of the course, then please note that students are registered in a specific section and only those formally registered in the section will have their assignments and exams read and graded. Changing sections involves a “drop/add” form and can be done only if there are places in the section you wish to move to.

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:** The University of Guelph takes a very serious view of Academic Misconduct. This includes such activities as cheating on examinations, plagiarism, misrepresentation of material, unauthorized collaboration or co-operation, and submitting the same material for credit on two different occasions without prior written permission. Students are expected to be familiar with the section on Academic Misconduct in the Undergraduate Calendar. If an instructor suspects that academic misconduct has occurred, that instructor has the right to examine students orally on the content or any other facet of submitted work.

Please see also the “SEVEN STANDARD STATEMENTS” (below), which are required to be distributed with all course-descriptions in the College of Arts.