

**JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**State University of New York**

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**INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Title:** Biomedical Ethics

**Course Abbreviation and Number:** PHL 2720

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Course Type:** Lecture

**Course Description:** Students will identify key problems confronted by health and medical care professionals. Students will articulate a moral point of view with which they will address problems such as informed consent, patient rights, confidentiality, euthanasia, genetic testing, and medical resource allocation.

Prerequisite: ENG 1530.

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**General Education Requirements Met**

SUNY

Humanities

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**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

1. Compare and contrast morality and ethics.
  2. Identify and apply the main moral principles used in bioethics which may include but are not limited to autonomy, parentalism, harm principle, parens patriae, beneficence, nonmaleficence, distributive justice, utility, confidentiality, breaching confidentiality, and duty to warn.
  3. Identify and apply the main ethical theories used in bioethics which may include but are not limited to Utilitarianism, Kant's ethics, Ross's ethics, Rawls's theory of justice, Natural law ethics and moral theology, Virtue ethics, Care ethics, and Feminist ethics.
  4. Evaluate and analyze inductive rational ethical arguments on the main bioethical issues which may include but are not limited to autonomy and informed consent, restrictions on autonomy, truth-telling, confidentiality, research ethics, genetic controls, reproductive controls, abortion, impaired infants, euthanasia and assisted suicide, organ transplants and scarce medical resources, distributing health care, minorities and medicine, and HIV and AIDS.
  5. Construct strong inductive rational ethical arguments for the main bioethical issues listed above.
  6. Further explain and expand the rational ethical arguments they construct as warranted based on new perspectives.
  7. Describe actions that may be taken which are consistent with the rational ethical arguments they construct.
  8. Evaluate and construct inductive rational arguments for the major bioethical issues including a consideration of the viewpoint of diverse populations.
  9. Demonstrate an understanding of the conventions and methods of at least one of the humanities. [SUNY Gen Ed – Humanities]
  10. Recognize and analyze nuance and complexity of meaning through critical reflections on text, visual images, or artifacts. [SUNY Gen Ed – Humanities]
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**Topics Covered:**

- Introduction to Biomedical Ethics
  - Ethical Theories and Moral Principles
  - Rational Arguments
  - Autonomy
  - Genetic Controls
  - Reproductive Controls
  - Abortion
  - Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide
  - Organ Transplantation and Scarce Medical Resources
  - Distributing Health Care
  - Minorities and Medicine
  - HIV and AIDS
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**Information for Students**

- Expectations of Students
  - [Civility Statement](#)
  - [Student Responsibility Statement](#)
  - [Academic Integrity Statement](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)

Students who require accommodations to complete the requirements and expectations of this course because of a disability must make their accommodation requests to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.

- [Get Help: JCC & Community Resources](#)
- [Emergency Closing Procedures](#)
- Course grade is determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:

A=4.0	B+=3.5	B=3	C+=2.5	C=2	D+=1.5	D=1	F=0
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- Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.

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**Effective Date:** Fall 2023