

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

The course has three main objectives. First, the course will familiarize students with topics in bioethics across the human lifespan. Second, it will expose them to a variety of philosophical approaches to key bioethical problems. Third, it will give students the opportunity to apply these differing philosophical approaches to real cases in bioethi

**TEXTS**

Weijer C, Skelton A, Brennan S (eds) *Bioethics in Canada* Oxford University Press, 2013.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

Week 1 (January 4):

Readings: Bioethics in Canada pages 20

Week 3 (January 19): **Fetuses**

Readings: Bioethics in Canada pages 236

NOTE: The first-class quiz will be held on Wednesday, January 20, 2016

Week 4 (January 25): **Procreation and Child Rearing**

Readings: Bioethics in Canada pages 375

Week 5 (February 1): **Adults and Decision-making**

Week 12 (March 8): **Defining Death**

Readings: Bioethics in Canada pages 168-179

NOTE: The fifth-class quiz will be held on Wednesday, March 2

Week 13 (March 28): **Harvesting Organs from the Dead**

Readings: Bioethics in Canada pages 180-193

NOTE: Second case analysis assignment due on Wednesday, March 3, 2016

Week 14 (April 1): **Review and Conclusion.**

## **REQUIREMENTS**

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## AUDIT

Students wishing to audit the course should consult with the instructor prior to or during the first week of classes.

## REGULATIONS

### 1. Submission of essays

Please submit your assignments electronically. Do not submit a paper copy.

In order to submit your assignment, visit the OWL site for this course. On the left navigation menu you will find the assignment tool. Click on this tool and you will find the assignment guidelines and basic instructions for submitting your assignment. To submit your assignment, click on the submit button at the bottom of the page.

A corrected version of your paper will be returned to you through the OWL site.

### 2. Turnitin.com

All required papers will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. Papers submitted will be included as course documents in the reference database for the detection of plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>

### 3. Extensions

If you miss a quiz, you will be permitted to make it up. However, with respect to the remainder of the course work, exceptions to the above work submission dates may be granted. Instructors have the right to make exceptions to the above work submission dates.

## 5. Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. Plagiarism is unacknowledged copying or paraphrasing (other than course text or general background knowledge any student is reasonably expected to have) and then presents that knowledge as their own discovery. Students considered to have plagiarized, even if the words used do not exactly the same.

Examples of plagiarism include: misrepresenting or group work as individually done, cutting and pasting copied or paraphrased work by others in with your own work, paraphrasing or otherwise altering the order of words or phrases of similar meaning without acknowledgement that you are doing so, and such offences, among others.

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students use an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Calendar).

## 6. Email policy

I am unable to respond to philosophical concerns or questions during my office hours. If you have a problem with an assignment on time or you need an appointment with me or you have some private matter you would like to communicate to me, feel free to contact me. Otherwise, please attend office hours or make an appointment to see me.

## 7. Prerequisites

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken a prerequisite course. Lack of prerequisites is not a basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be able to take it over time, and you will receive no fee adjustment. These decisions are final.

8. The Department of Philosophy Policies which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Philosophy courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Philosophy website at <http://www.uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/>. It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department, and thus ignorance of these policies will not be used as grounds of appeal.

9. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western at <http://www.uwo.ca/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.