

Goal

THINK ABOUT HOW SCIENCE IS CHANGING THE WAY
WE THINK ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE HUMAN

Purpose:

- **Learn about modern advances in genetic engineering**
- **Understand the debate on the ethics of designer babies**
- **Think about how you would approach this issue**

Tasks:

1. Listen to this Podcast about the topic: <https://www.geneticsandsociety.org/internal-content/designer-babies-crispr-genetic-engineering>
2. Then, read this post: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/sarwantsingh/2017/11/20/transhumanism-and-the-future-of-humanity-seven-ways-the-world-will-change-by-2030/#742dd55c7d79>
3. Write an essay/reflection/response on the topic of how these new technologies are changing our idea of what is human. For example, you could talk about whether or not designer babies and/or transhumanism should be something scientists should work towards. You can talk about whatever aspects of this question interest you, such as the ethics, morals, and legal aspects of people artificially editing a baby's DNA. Be sure to connect it to the science discussed in the podcast or other examples you find online of new technologies.
4. There is no length requirement. Instead, you should focus on writing as much as you need to cover the questions asked.
5. Post to AsULearn discussion board by Feb 6 at 11:59 PM
6. Remember that your classmates will be reading and commenting on these essays. So be sure that you are putting in as much effort as you need to.