

# BIOETHICS

## (MD) {BIOE}

Information about the Center for Bioethics and the Master's in Bioethics degree offered by the School of Medicine is available at <http://www.med.upenn.edu/mbe>. Courses are currently offered under the subject code BIOE.

### **L/R 282. (PSCI282) Lying, Cheating, Stealing, and Killing: How to Think About Professional Ethic.** Allen/Emanuel/Hirschmann/Strudler.

Professionals - in business, medicine, law, and politics - face myriad ethical dilemmas in their daily work life that challenge, and sometimes conflict with, the moral commitments that guide their everyday life. This course systematically examines the ethical dimensions of these four professional roles, asking questions such as: Are there limits to what we should sell? How far should competitors go to "win"? Who should get ventilators in a flu pandemic? Is it morally permissible for physicians to assist in suicide? Should lawyers represent terrorists or child killers? How far does attorney-client privilege go? Is it morally justifiable to torture enemy combatants? Should politicians lie?

### **401. (BIOE601) INTRO TO BIOETHICS. (A)**

### **402. (BIOE602) CON. FOUND. OF BIOETHICS.**

### **505. SEX AND BIOETHICS.**

### **540. Challenging Clinical Ethics: Managing patient/caregiver conflicts through mediation. (M)** Bergman. Prerequisite(s): None.

The contemporary healthcare system in which patients, families, institutions and a multiplicity of caregivers interact over matters of life and death with legal, ethical, emotional and scientific complexities inherently gives rise to a variety of disputes. Such disputes are frequently highly charged and are often emergent in nature. In recent years, mediation has grown exponentially as a dispute resolution mechanism of choice. Not surprisingly, the success of mediation and a wider understanding of the process, has led to its application in the realm of healthcare disputes with encouraging results.

This course will initially provide an overview of classical mediation theory and practice. Students will be introduced to negotiation fundamentals critical to the practice of mediation. Similarities and differences between mediation in the healthcare field, as distinct from other contexts, will be examined. All class members will participate in mediation role-plays designed to simulate disputes of the kind prevalent in healthcare landscape

### **SM 545. Mediation Intensive I.** Edward J. Bergman, Autumn Fiester, Lance Wahlert. Prerequisite(s): There are no prerequisites for this course.

Students will be placed in a variety of clinical situations in which they will play the roles of disputants and mediators, with ongoing discussions and critiques of mediator performance. Each student will be videotaped during their mediation to elicit feedback from the group and to catalyze self-criticism. As distinct from the course, BIOE 540: Challenging Clinical Ethics, in which negotiation and mediation theory are taught as a prelude to clinical simulations, this course references the literature solely in relation to problems encountered in the hands-on mediation of specific cases.

Students may take the mediation intensives in any order; they do not need to be taken from I to IV. Students may take all 4 intensive courses, as the material will not be repeated.

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**SM 546. Mediation Intensive II.** Edward J. Bergman, Autumn Fiester, Lance Wahlert. Prerequisite(s): There are no prerequisites for this course.

Students will have an immersion experience, learning mediation through role-playing simulations. Note that the format is similar to Mediation Intensive I, but the Mediation Intensive II will NOT duplicate simulations. Students in this course will: learn to effectively manage clinical disputes among and between caregivers, patients, and surrogates through mediation; discover how to define problems and assess underlying interests to generate mutually acceptable options; role play in a variety of clinical situations as both disputants and mediators; practice mediation with professional actors; and receive constructive feedback in a supportive environment. Students will also be required to complete a written research paper.

Students may take the mediation intensives in any order; they do not need to be taken from I to IV. Students may take all 4 intensive courses, as the material will not be repeated.

**SM 547. Mediation Intensive III.** Edward J. Bergman, Autumn Fiester, Lance Wahlert.

Students will have an immersion experience, learning mediation through role-playing simulations. Note that the format is similar to Mediation Intensive I and II, but med. intensive III will NOT duplicate simulations. Students in this course will: learn to effectively manage clinical disputes among and between caregivers, patients, and surrogates through mediation; discover how to define problems and assess underlying interests to generate mutually acceptable options; role play in a variety of clinical situations as both disputants and mediators; practice mediation with professional actors; and receive constructive feedback in a supportive environment. Students will also be required to complete a written research paper.

Students may take the mediation intensives in any order; they do not need to be taken from I to IV. Students may take all 4 intensive courses, as the material will not be repeated.

**SM 548. Mediation Intensive IV.** Edward J. Bergman, Autumn Fiester, Lance Wahlert. Prerequisite(s): None.

Students will have an immersion experience, learning mediation through role-playing simulations. Note that the format is similar to earlier mediation intensives but the mediation intensive IV will NOT duplicate simulations. Students in this course will: learn to effectively manage clinical disputes among and between caregivers, patients, and surrogates through mediation; discover how to define problems and assess underlying interests to generate mutually acceptable options; role play in a variety of clinical situations as both disputants and mediators; practice mediation with professional actors; use video-tapes of simulations to improve mediation techniques and strengthen interpersonal skills; receive constructive feedback in a supportive environment.

Students may take the mediation intensives in any order; they do not need to be taken from I to IV. Students may take all 4 intensive courses, as the material will not be repeated.

**550. Bioethics and Society. (M)** MERZ, JON. This is a topics course - for information on the topic currently being offered, please go to the course listing on the Bioethics website: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/mbe>.

This set of courses will deal with bioethical issues in popular culture addressed from a social science perspective. Courses to be offered include: "Sociology of Bioethics," and "Media and the Doctor-Patient Relationship."

**551. Sociological Topics in Bioethics. (M)** This is a topics course - for information on the topic currently being offered, please go to the course listing on the Bioethics website: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/mbe>.

This set of courses provides a rigorous introduction to the use of sociological methods and perspective to address bioethical topics and issues. Past courses have included the "Sociology of Medicine," "Medical Errors," and "Sociology of Jewish Bioethics."

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**552. Anthropological Topics in Bioethics. (M)** This is a topics course - for information on the topic currently being offered, please go to the course listing on the Bioethics website: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/mbe>.

This set of courses provides an introduction to the use of anthropological methods and approaches to address bioethical issues. Courses might include cross-cultural studies of medicine and doctoring, diversity and the culture of medicine, cross-cultural bioethics.

**SM 553. Historical Topics in Bioethics. (M)** This is a topics course - for information on the topic currently being offered, please go to the course listing on the Bioethics website: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/mbe>.

This set of courses provides a historical perspective on the field of bioethics and/or key issues or areas within the field. Courses that might be offered include the history of medicine and the history of science.

**554. Religious Topics in Bioethics. (M)** This is a topics course - for information on the topic currently being offered, please go to the course listing on the Bioethics website: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/mbe>.

This set of courses examine the role of spirituality in the field of bioethics. Courses might be taught from a single religious perspective or provide an overview of many different perspectives. Past courses have included "Spirituality and Bioethics."

**556. Evidence in Bioethics and Health Policy. (A)** Maclean.

The ability to critically appraise scholarly work is a necessary skill to effectively contribute to bioethics and health policy debates, and for development and implementation of health interventions. The object of this course is to provide students with the skills needed to become fluent in reading and assessment of empirical bioethics and health service research. The course will review and evaluate a wide range of qualitative and quantitative methods utilized in bioethics, health policy, and medical research. Specifically, students will learn the conceptual rationale for standard qualitative and quantitative methods, their strengths and weakness. At course completion, students should be able to critically evaluate empirical research published in top bioethics, health policy, and medical journals.

### 558. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH.

**560. Clinical Approaches to Bioethics. (M)** This is a topics course - for information on the topic currently being offered, please go to the course listing on the Bioethics website: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/mbe>.

This set of courses examines issues in bioethics from the perspective of the practicing clinician, physician, nurse, or other health care professional. These courses will often use case studies or clinical experience to analyze or understand contemporary problems in bioethics. An example of such a course is "Clinical Dilemmas Through the Life Cycle."

**570. Bioethics and Policy. (M)** This is a topics course - for information on the topic currently being offered, please go to the course listing on the Bioethics website: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/mbe>.

This set of courses will look at bioethical topics from either a legal or public policy perspective. Past courses have included: Ethics of Managed Care, Law, Medicine and Policy, and Legal Aspects of Healthcare in America.

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**L/R 565. Rationing.** Ezekiel Emanuel, Harald Schmidt. Prerequisite(s): None.

You have one liver but three patients awaiting a liver transplant. Who should get the liver? What criteria should be used to select the recipient? Is it fair to give it to an alcoholic? These are some of the questions that arise in the context of rationing and allocating scarce health care resources among particular individuals, what is called micro-allocation decisions. There are also macro-allocation decisions that focus on how health care systems distributes resources across populations. Using the cases of organs for transplantation, the rationing for vaccines in a flu pandemic, and oncology drug shortages, the course will critically examine alternative theories for allocating scarce resources among individuals. Using both the need to establish priorities for global health aid and to define an essential benefit package for health insurance, the course will critically examine diverse theories for macro-allocation from cost-effectiveness analysis to age-based rationing to accountability for reasonableness.

**571. GLOBAL HEALTH POLICY.**

**572. GLOBAL BIOETHICS. (A)**

**575. (HCMG250, HCMG850) The Future of the American Health Care System: Health Policy and the Affordable Care Act. (A)** Ezekiel Emanuel, J. Sanford Schwartz. Prerequisite(s): None. Course open to graduate students and upper level undergraduates. Freshman and Sophmores may request permission to enroll. Email mbe-info@mail.med.upenn.edu

This course will provide students a broad overview of the current U.S. healthcare system. The course will focus on the challenges facing the health care system, an in-depth understanding of the Affordable Care Act, and its potential impact upon health care access, delivery, cost, and quality.

The U.S. health care system is the worlds largest, most technologically advanced, most expensive, with uneven quality, and an unsustainable cost structure. This multi-disciplinary course will explore the history and structure of the current American health care system and the impact of the Affordable Care Act. How did the United States get here? The course will examine the history of and problems with employment-based health insurance, the challenges surrounding access, cost and quality, and the medical malpractice conundrum. As the Affordable Care Act is implemented over the next decade, the U.S. will witness tremendous changes that will shape the American health care system for the next 50 years of more.

The course will examine potential reforms, including those offered by liberals and conservatives and information that can be extracted from health care systems in other developed countries. The second half of the course will explore key facets of the Affordable Care Act, including improving access to care and health insurance exchanges, improving quality and constraining costs through health care delivery system reforms, realigning capacity through changes in workforce and medical education, and potential impact on biomedical and other innovation. The course will also examine the political context and process of passing major legislation in general and health care legislation in particular, including constitutional arguments surrounding the Affordable Care Act. Throughout lessons will integrate the disciplines of health economics, health and social policy, law and political science to elucidate key principles.

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### **580. Research Ethics. (M) Merz.**

This class is intended to give students a broad overview of research ethics and regulation. The students will come out of the class with an understanding of the moral bases of scientific ethics and the historical evolution of biomedical research ethics. Students will be fully conversant with the development, implementation, and limitation of US human subjects regulation. The course will include reading assignments and lectures addressing the following topics: ethics and morality in science, science in society; scientific integrity; misconduct: from FFP to MIM; conflicts of interest; collegiality, publication, and authorship; ethics codes and regulation; research with human subjects; historical review of human experimentation; human subjects regulation (HHS, FDA), Institutional Review Boards; informed consent, waivers, vulnerable populations, privacy and the confidentiality of records; and research on animals.

**585. Ethics of Research in Vulnerable Populations.** Prerequisite(s): Either BIOE 580: Research Ethics or a short set of supplemental background reading.

This is an advanced seminar focused on human subjects research in resource-constrained regions of the world. Students are expected to have a grounding in US regulations and policies. The students will come out of the class with an appreciation for issues raised by research involving populations vulnerable to manipulation and exploitation, a sensitivity to cultural issues, and an awareness of methods for appropriately engaging communities and performing ethically sound research. The course includes reading assignments, lectures, case-based and discussions addressing topics ranging from social and anthropological research, vulnerability and exploitation, biomedical research, pharmaceutical sponsorship, traditional knowledge and biopiracy, and equity and access.

Grade will be based on 3 written case evaluations (70%) and class discussion and participation (30%).

**590. Philosophical Topics in Bioethics. (M)** This is a topics course - for information on the topic currently being offered, please go to the course listing on the Bioethics website: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/mbe>.

This set of courses provides a philosophical perspective on bioethical topics and issues. This can include courses that integrate ethical theory with concern for particular applications of theory or conceptual issues in medicine, health care, and the life sciences. Past courses have included Philosophy of Death and Dying, Genetics and Ethics, Philosophy of Medicine, Pragmatic Bioethics, and Feminism and Bioethics.

### **601. (BIOE401) Introduction to Clinical Bioethics. (A) Fiester.**

This course is intended to serve as a broad introduction to the field of bioethics. The course will focus on three of the most important areas in bioethics: Genetics & Reproduction, Human Experimentation, and End-of-Life. Each module of the course will cover essential bioethics concepts, relevant legal cases, and classical readings of that theme. Each module will include one guest lecture from our distinguished bioethics faculty.

### **602. (BIOE402) Conceptual Foundations in Bioethics. (B)**

This course examines the various theoretical approaches to bioethics and critically assesses their underpinnings. Topics to be covered include an examination of various versions of deontological theories, utilitarianism, virtue ethics, principlism, casuistry, feminist ethics, narrative theory, and pragmatism.

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### **604. (BIOE504) Empirical Methods in Bioethics. (M)**

This course provides an introduction to social science research design and methods for students interested in conducting research on issues in bioethics. The course is appropriate for students who, rather than conducting research themselves, will use research findings to make or challenge arguments in policy statements or other writings. Emphasis is placed on the logic of research design as the way to relate topic of inquiry with method so that evidence produced is pertinent and useful. Students will design research projects and explore a variety of methods available to conduct research. Students will also learn to integrate research ethics into the formulation and design of their inquiries.

### **605. MENTORED RESEARCH I.**

### **606. MENTORED RESEARCH II.**

### **607. MENTORED RESEARCH III.**

### **608. MENTORED RESEARCH IV.**

**SM 688. Bioethics in China: Research, Industry, and Practice.** Joe Powers. Prerequisite(s): None.

Course Objective: The intent of this course is to offer students a broad understanding of bioethical issues in China. Students will be challenged to consider whether there is a unique Chinese Ethic, or whether Chinese culture and practice can be understood as harmonized with Western values and morals. Specific topics include: Ethical considerations in outsourcing clinical trials to China; Pharmaceutical marketing practices in China; Physician-Patient interactions and the notions of autonomy; Ethics in health policy; Intellectual property and the regulatory landscape; Challenges in conducting business and research in China, including organizational practices and business Ethics. Course Format: Students will travel to Beijing, Nanjing and Shanghai where the program will include site visits, academic lectures, and meetings with policymakers, Chinese and expatriate business leaders and others. Visits to significant cultural sites will also be included. Class meetings will be held prior to and following the trip to China and will include distinguished guest speakers from the US and abroad.

Student Requirements/Evaluation: Students will be required to read all assigned articles and book chapters and to come to class sessions prepared for discussion. 25% of the course grade will be based on student participation in the breakfast journal club and guest presentations. Students will be required to write a 10-15 page research paper on some aspect of bioethics in China. This paper will count towards 50% of the final grade. Students will be asked to present their paper at the post-trip class, and this presentation will count for the remaining 25% of the course grade.

**996. Research Topics. (C)** This course is only open to students in the Master of Bioethics program.

This course serves the final MBE project. This course requires students to work with faculty to produce original research that is of publishable quality. Past students have published in Nature, Science, and other prominent journals.

**999. Independent Study. (C)** This course is only open to students in the Master of Bioethics program.