



**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

**PHIL 313 Lec 1 "Bioethics"
Summer Term 2014**

Lectures: Mon and Wed, 8:30-11:15 in ST 126

Instructor: Justin Caouette

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Office Hours: Monday 12:00-1:00 and Wednesday 12:00- 1:30

Course Description

This course examines the main ethical positions and arguments given for the use of different biotechnology. Over the course of the semester we will cover a range of cases pertaining to 3 areas of the life cycle: (1) issues pertaining to the beginning of life, (2) the middle of life, and (3) end of life broadly construed. Some of the more specific issues include: abortion; sex selection; enhancement in sport; cognitive enhancement; euthanasia; allocation of medical resources; and consent in the medical context. The aim of the course is to engage students in critically reflecting on how these issues positively and negatively affect people's lives. It also aims to show that debates and disagreements in these contexts are very complex and that there are a number of ways to approach answering them in a satisfactory way.

Required Text

Human Enhancement, Julian Savulescu and Nick Bostrom, eds. (Oxford University Press, 2013)

Evaluation

Exam: July 23 = 30% This exam will take place on in class Monday, July 23.

Position Paper = 30% (4-6 double-spaced pages) due in class Wednesday August 6

Presentation = 30% Due dates will depend on the topic assigned.

Presentation Summary = 10% (2 double-spaced pages) due one week after presentation

Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of your work for this course.

There is NO Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Grading Method

98-100 = A+

86-89 = B+

74-77 = C+

62-65 = D+

94-97 = A

82-85 = B

B 70-73 = C

58-61 = D

90-93 = A-

78-81 = B-

B- 66-69 = C-

< 57 = F

Policy on Late Assignments

Papers submitted later than the due date will lose one-half letter grade for each day beyond that date.

Students with medical or other extenuating reasons for not submitting a paper on the due date will not be penalized if they inform the instructor and provide him with documentation confirming the special circumstances.

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a permanent disability or temporary impairment who may require academic accommodation, you must first register with the Student Accessibility Resource Office located in MacEwan Student Centre 452; phone 403-220-8237; email access@ucalgary.ca. Students who have not registered with the Student Accessibility Office are not eligible for academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/> for further information.

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is the University of Calgary's learning management system which has now replaced BlackBoard. Go to <http://www.elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/> for help in using Desire2Learn.

Student Advising and Information Resources

- General Academic Concerns and Program Planning– Have a question but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts' Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the PIC Office can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. You can visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undersgraduate> for detailed information on common academic concerns.
- **Advice on Philosophy Courses** - You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy's website <http://phil.ucalgary.ca> or contact one of Philosophy's current Undergraduate Advisors (see below)
- **Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers** – If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the instructor of the course.

Protection of Privacy

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor.

Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representatives

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial, and confidential support for students who require assistance or advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. For more information, see www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds. For the Students' Union Faculty of Arts rep: arts1@ucalgary.ca.

Safewalk

Call 403-220-5333 (24/7/365) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and the LRT station or use a Campus Help Phone.

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12th floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at www.phil.ucalgary.ca

PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR SUMMER 2014:

Chris Framarin (Undergrad Director) chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca

Reid Buchanan buchanar@ucalgary.ca

Mark Migotti (Honours Program Advisor) migotti@ucalgary.ca

For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca)