

DePaul University College of Law

Fall 2009
Tuesday 9:00 am – 10:40 a.m.
Room 801

Professor Donald H.J. Hermann
Office: Room 829
Phone: 312-362-8383

SEMINAR: LEGAL AND PUBLIC POLICY ASPECTS OF BIOETHICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar explores the interaction of law and medical science in providing the foundation for policy in bioethics. The course deals with a number of areas of current controversy including refusal of treatment, withholding of treatment including nutrition and hydration, reproductive technologies, genetic engineering, cloning and stem cell research. Student research and writing will focus on a current issue in bioethics.

COURSE MATERIALS

Albert Jonsen, et. al., *Clinical Ethics: A Practical Approach to Ethical Decisions in Clinical Medicine*, (Sixth Ed.). MCGRAW-HILL: New York (2006).

Lonnie Kliever (ed.), *Dax's Case: Essays in Medical Ethics and Human Meaning*. SOUTHERN METHODIST PRESS: Dallas (1989).

Mary Warnoch, *Making Babies*. OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS: New York (2002).

Michael Sandel, *The Case Against Perfection*. HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS: Cambridge (2007).

Martha Nussbaum and Cass Sunstein, *Clones and Cloning*. W.W. NORTON & Co.: New York (1999).

Michael Ruse and Christopher Pynes, (ed), *The Stem Cell Controversy*. PROMETHEUS BOOKS, Amherst (2006).

Jay Wolfson (ed.), *The Case of Terri Schiavo*. PROMETHEUS BOOKS: Amherst (2006).

METHODOLOGY

This is a seminar which will involve class discussion of assigned reading materials. Each student will prepare a research paper on a topic involving a current issue in bioethics approved by the instructor. Students will present a report on their research to the seminar.

EVALUATION

The grade for this course will be based in part upon participation in the class discussion and the oral report to the seminar on the written seminar paper.

CLASS MEETINGS AND READING SCHEDULE

Week 1	August 29, 2009	Introduction Film: "Dax's Case: Who Should Decide" Reading: Jonsen, <i>Clinical Ethics</i> pp. 1-50
Week 2	September 1, 2009	Kliever, <i>Dax's Case</i> pp. 1-96 Jonsen, <i>Clinical Ethics</i> pp.1-50
Week 3	September 8, 2009	Kliever, <i>Dax's Case</i> pp. 97-211 Jonsen, <i>Clinical Ethics</i> pp. 51-108
Week 4	September 15, 2009	Warnock, <i>Making Babies</i>
Week 5	September 22, 2009	Sandel, <i>The Case Against Perfection</i>
Week 6	September 29, 2009	Nussbaum/Sunstein, <i>Clones and Cloning</i> pp. 1-164
Week 7	October 6, 2009	Nussbaum/Sunstein, <i>Clones and Cloning</i> pp. 165-346
Week 8	October 13, 2009	Ruse/Pynes, <i>The Stem Cell Controversy</i> pp. 9-185
Week 9	October 20, 2009	Ruse/Pynes, <i>The Stem Cell Controversy</i> pp.187-346
Week 10	October 27, 2009	Wolfson, <i>The Case of Terri Schiavo</i> Jonsen, <i>Clinical Ethics</i> pp. 109-158
Week 11	November 3, 2009	WRITING ASSIGNMENT – NO CLASS
Week 12	November 10, 2009	WRITING ASSIGNMENT – NO CLASS
Week 13	November 17, 2009	STUDENT PRESENTATIONS
Week 14	November 24, 2009	STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

SCHEDULE OF WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

Week 4	September 15, 2009	Submit One Paragraph Typed Statement of Topic
Week 7	October 6, 2009	Submit Typed Bibliography on Topic
Week 9	October 20, 2009	Submit Typed Tentative Outline of Paper
Week 10-12	November 3- November 10, 2009	Write Draft of Paper
Week 13-15	November 17 – November 24, 2009	Present Oral Report
Week 17	December 10, 2009	Complete Paper Submitted

Completed papers are due by December 10, 2009 by 4:00 p.m. C.S.T. (Paper should be submitted in an envelope which has been time stamped. The time stamp machine is located on the 1st floor at 25 E. Jackson Blvd. Lewis Center (LC) next to the security guard's station.) Your completed paper should be placed inside the Take Home Drop-Off Box located in the hallway of the 9th fl. LC which is directly outside the "Office of the Dean" suite doors.