

San José State University
Department of Philosophy
Philosophy 111
(NURS 111, GERO 111, HS 111)
Medical Ethics
Section 1
Fall 2015

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Michael Jordan
Office Location: FOB 208
Telephone: 408-924-7582
Email: michael.jordan@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: MW 10:30-11:50am, 4:30-6:00pm
Class Days/Time: MW 9-10:15am
Classroom: BBC 203

Prerequisites: 3 units of philosophy or upper division standing

Course Description

Selected ethical problems in health care practices. For example, abortion, patient rights, national health care, euthanasia and genetic engineering, with emphasis on philosophical methods.

Should parents have the right to not vaccinate their children? When should we initiate or withdraw life support? Who should make the decision — individuals? Doctors? Hospitals? Families? How should organs be allocated to transplant candidates? Should the rights of fetuses trump those of pregnant women? Are reproductive technologies ethical? How should we fairly distribute scarce and expensive medical resources? Is medical tourism ethically justified? Is physician assisted suicide morally permissible? While some of these are new questions precipitated by rapid growth in the biomedical and health-care industries, others have been debated for centuries. In this course we will draw upon philosophy, anthropology, religion, science, and history to explore how discussing problems in medical ethics and bioethics needs to be approached from a variety of perspectives and disciplines.

Learning Outcomes and Course Goals

Course Student Learning Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to recognize, analyze, and articulate solutions to ethical issues that arise in Medical Ethics.

Specifically, you will be able to:

- distinguish between theoretical ethics and applied ethics
- communicate the major ethical theories and explain their assumptions
- understand the general features (and limitations) of current bioethical discussion
- evaluate common beliefs about ethics
- conceptualize the nature of a medical relationship, and understand the moral principles such involve
- identify the moral questions that medical practice and the health issues raise
- identify the key values of medical decision-making
- apply moral reasoning to specific situations and defend the conclusions of that reasoning

- write clearly, eloquently and effectively about particular moral dilemmas
- ethically evaluate the medical/health decisions and practices of others

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook: Kuhse and Singer, A companion to Bioethics, 2nd ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2012

ISBN: 978-1-4443-5084-5

Case Studies, Numerous class handout, and internet resources

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload is found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Points:

Quizzes = 60 points

Papers = 200 points

Participation = 40 points

Total =300 points

Quizzes/in Class-Assignments: There will be **six** quizzes, each worth 10 points. On selected Wednesdays there will be a quiz at the beginning or the end of the class, which will be based on the specific case study discussed in class that week. All quizzes will be brief in class essays or group projects. There is no make-up for a missed quiz.

Papers: There will be **Two** 5-6 page papers assigned throughout the semester worth 100 points each. Topics will be distributed in class and due dates can be found on the tentative schedule. All papers are to be done in the following format:

Times New Roman 12 pt. font

1" margins all around

Double spaced

Name, Course, Section, and Paper number on the left hand upper corner

In general, an **A** paper is defined as a paper that has (i) a thesis that is plausible, (ii) a good argument or set of arguments for the thesis, and (iii) a consideration of objections to the argument with responses to the objections. The highest grade that a paper can receive for failing to have (iii) is a **B**, the highest grade that a paper can receive for failing to have (ii) is **C**, and the highest grade that a paper can receive for failing to have (i) is a **D**. Success on a paper comes from clear, concise, and comprehensive argumentation in defense of a well thought out thesis.

Extra Credit: There will be an opportunity to earn extra credit points throughout the course. Each EC assignment will be based on an in class activity and will require you to be in class to get credit.

NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that "Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading."

Grading Policy

There are a total of 300 points.

300-280 = A	269-260 = B+	239-230 = C+	209-199 = D
279-270 = A-	259-250 = B	229-220 = C	198-0 = F
249-240 = B-	219-210 = C-		

Points:

Quizzes = 20%

Papers = 67%

Participation = 13%

Total = 300 points

Late Work Policy: Since it is not fair to other students to turn in late work, I do not accept it. All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date.

E-mailing Assignments: If you choose to e-mail assignments they must be e-mailed prior to the beginning of class on the assigned due date. Assignments sent after the class is over will be considered late. **IMPORTANT**, if you choose to e-mail me an assignment you must include the course title and section in the 'subject' line and include your full name in the e-mail.

"Students are strongly encouraged to take courses to satisfy GE Areas R, S, and V from departments other than their major department. Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) or ENGL/LLD 100A with a C or better (C- not accepted), and completion of Core General Education are prerequisite to all SJSU Studies courses. Completion of, or co---registration in, 100W is strongly recommended. A minimum aggregate GPA of 2.0 in GE Areas R, S, & V shall be required of all students." See [University Policy S14-5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-5-16) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-5-16>

Note that "All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades." See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

Classroom Protocol

Because this is a philosophy course, classroom discussion plays an important part of it. Dialogue and discussion are central to philosophy, but they presuppose that YOU have studied (i.e., read, re-read, and taken notes on) the material that is being discussed. In addition, there will be small group discussions and in-class projects. For these reasons, I expect you always to come to class (with your textbook) and to come having read carefully the assignment for that day. Philosophy classes have the potential to be fun for you and I, but it really depends on your participation.

University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars](#)

[webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course.

“Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”

“Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the

Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to



scan this code.)

SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an

individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

Fall 2015 Phil 111 Course Schedule (schedule is tentative and may change)

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 24	<u>Course Introduction</u> Read: Acquire Text Discussion: Course Introduction/syllabus review
1	Aug 26	<u>Medical Ethics</u> Read: Acquire Text Discussion: What is Medical Ethics? History, Major Ideas Writing Assessment: 'The Ashley case'
2	Aug 31	<u>Medical Ethics</u> Read: 'What is Bioethics?' pg. 1-13 Discussion: What is Medical/Nursing Ethics?'
2	Sept 2	<u>Medical Ethics</u> Read: 'Culture and Bioethics' pg. 24-36 Discussion: What is Bioethics?'
3	Sept 7 OFF	OFF
3	Sept 9	<u>Medical Ethics</u> Read: 'Religion and Bioethics' pg. 46-56 and 'Law and Bioethics' pg. 56-65 Discussion: The Role of Religion, Law, Science, and Culture in Medical Ethics
4	Sept 14	<u>Ethical Approaches</u> Read: "Ethical Theory and Bioethics" pg. 13-24, Handout Discussion: : Major Moral Principles of Medical Ethics and Bioethics
4	Sept 16	<u>Ethical Approaches</u> Read: 'A Utilitarian Approach' pg. 85-90 and 'A Care Approach' pg. 105-117 Discussion: Consequentialism and Care Ethics
5	Sept 21	<u>Doctor/Patient Relationship The Patient</u> Read: Case # 1 and "informed consent and Patient Autonomy" pg. 530-541 and 'Patients doubtfully capable or Incapable of Consent' pg. 541-551 Discussion: Autonomy and Informed Consent
5	Sept 23	<u>Doctor/Patient Relationship The Patient</u> Read: Case # 1 and "informed consent and Patient Autonomy" pg. 530-541 and 'Patients doubtfully capable or Incapable of Consent' pg. 541-551 Case Study 1: Cassandra C. Quiz #1
6	Sept 28	<u>Doctor/Patient Relationship the Doctor</u> Read: "Truth telling" pg. 520-528, Confidentiality pg. 513-520 Discussion: 'Do no Harm': Truth, Confidentiality, and Health Care Professionals

6	Sept 30	Doctor/Patient Relationship the Doctor Read: Case # 2 and "Truth telling" pg. 520-528, Confidentiality pg. 513-520 Case Study 2: Medical Professionals' Role in Torture
7	Oct 5	Issues in Reproduction Read: Case # 3 and "Personhood" pg. 127-140, "Mother fetus conflict" pg. 149-160 Discussion: Fetal rights, Reproductive Technology, Surrogacy,
7	Oct 7	Issues in Reproduction Read: Case # 3 and "Personhood" pg. 127-140, "Mother fetus conflict" pg. 149-160 Case Study 3: Premature Infants Quiz #2
8	Oct 12	Vaccinations Read: Handout, http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB277 Discussion: Vaccinations, Parental Autonomy vs. Community Good
8	Oct 14	Vaccinations Read: Handout and http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB277 Case Study 4: CA SB 277 Paper #1 Due
9	Oct 19	Resource Allocation Read: "Deciding between patients" pg. 333-351, http://www.npr.org/2013/09/10/220687231/during-katrina-memorial-doctors-chose-who-lived-who-died and http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/30/magazine/30doctors.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0 Discussion: Resource Allocation in Health Care
9	Oct 21	Resource Allocation Read: "Deciding between patients" pg. 333-351 Case Study 5: http://www.npr.org/2013/09/10/220687231/during-katrina-memorial-doctors-chose-who-lived-who-died and http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/30/magazine/30doctors.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0
10	Oct 26	Organ Donation Read: " A world of transferable parts" pg. 373-391 Discussion: Organ Donation vs. Organ Commodification
10	Oct 28	Organ Donation Read: " A world of transferable parts" pg. 373-391 Case Study 6: Selling Organs Quiz #3
11	Nov 2	Medical Tourism Read: Reading Handout Discussion: Medical Tourism
11	Nov 4	Medical Tourism Read: Case #7 http://www.lifeofthelaw.org/2015/07/outside-the-womb/ Case Study 7: Life of the Law Podcast: 'Outside of the womb', Surrogacy and international Law.

12	Nov 9	Issues in Research and Human Experimentation Read: Case # 8 and 'Research involving Human Beings' pg. 457-469, Discussion: Clinical Research with Children
12	Nov 11	Issues in Research and Human Experimentation Read: Case # 8 and 'Research involving Human Beings' pg. 457-469 Case Study 8: TBD Quiz #4
13	Nov 16	Issues Concerning Euthanasia Read: Case #9 and "Voluntary Euthanasia, suicide, and physician assisted suicide" pg. 312-321 Discussion: Autonomy and end of life decisions.
13	Nov 18	Issues Concerning Euthanasia Read: "Voluntary Euthanasia, suicide, and physician assisted suicide" pg. 312-321 Case Study 9: "Death with Dignity": The Case of Brittany Maynard, http://thebrittanyfund.org/category/videos/
14	Nov 23	End of Life Read: Case 10 and 'Medical Decisions at the End of Life' pg. 261-273, Discussion: Moral issues and end of life care

14	Nov 25	End of Life Read: Case 10 and 'Medical Decisions at the End of Life' pg. 261-273, Case Study 10 Terri Schiavo, Family, and Politics: http://www.nejm.org/action/showMediaPlayer?doi=10.1056%2FNEJMp058062&aid=NEJMp058062_attach_1&area=&viewType=Popup&viewClass=Audio Quiz #5
15	Nov 30	Global Health Care Issues Read: Case #11 and 'Global Health Responsibilities' pg. 393-404 and 'Infectious Disease' pg. 430-440 Discussion: World Health Issues
15	Dec 2	Global Health Care Issues Read: Case #11 and 'Global Health Responsibilities' pg. 393-404 and 'Infectious Disease' pg. 430-440 Case Study 11: Pharmaceutical companies obligation to developing countries.
16	Dec 7	Last Day of Class Paper Summary presentations Quiz #6
Final Exam	Dec 16	Final Exam Day 7:15am-9:30am Paper #2 Due

