

Bioethics 3301  
Spring Semester of 2023  
Sul Ross State University  
SYLLABUS

Section: 001

Professor: Benjamin Barrientes

Email: [benjamin.barrientes@sulross.edu](mailto:benjamin.barrientes@sulross.edu)

Office phone: (432) 837-8464

Cell phone: (432) 294-4189

Offices located at 202 Lawrence Hall and 109A MAB

**Course Description:**

This course will address important matters pertaining to contemporary issues in Bioethics. We will focus on the history of Bioethics with attention to how particular religious and philosophical themes inform issues of human suffering and death. Our textbook will provide challenging readings that enable us to discuss areas of concern classified in the field of Bioethics: in vitro fertilization, abortion, genetic engineering, euthanasia, assisted suicide, and (perspectives on) death and dying.

**Course Objectives-** upon completion of the course students will be able:

1. To communicate about the various topics that shape the discipline of Bioethics;
2. Think critically about the foundations of the Western Philosophical Traditions;
3. Think critically about their own philosophical ideologies with regard to Bioethics;
4. Appreciate and respect the views of their classmates;
5. Through group inquiry participate in a dialogue that started many years ago;
6. Work on reaching a level of logical precision in expressing and writing their ideas.

**Texas Domain III Competency 19:** The teacher understands and applies critical thinking knowledge and skills to plan, organize/implement instruction, and assess learning.

**Texas Domain III Competency 23:** The teacher understands and applies knowledge of core concepts of philosophy including ways that individuals and groups achieve their goals through distinct and unique systems and approaches for thought.

**Americans with Disability Act Statement:**

In order to receive accommodations on exams or assignments, proper documentation must first be provided to the Office of Counseling and Accessibility Services. Contact Rebecca Wren (Office: 112 Ferguson Hall) to set up an accommodations meeting, or call (432) 837-8203. Students must then present this documentation to the instructor as soon as possible so that accommodations may be arranged.

**Attendance and Plagiarism Policies:**

Each class meeting informs subsequent class meetings. Participation and regular class attendance is the minimal expectation of each student.

Sul Ross State University has a zero tolerance policy on cheating, plagiarism, or collusion. Procedures for dealing with these acts are addressed in the Scholastic Dishonesty Policy. Plagiarism is a serious matter; thus, if anyone needs clarification please let me know.

\*With the advent of email, the communication between teacher and student is better served. I will respond to your communication(s); I expect for you to respond to mine.

### **Required textbook**

The required textbook for this course is the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of *Basics of Bioethics* edited by Robert M. Veatch.

### **Course Requirements**

Each student will write 2 critical analysis papers (in Word format, emailed to the instructor).

### **Grading Scale:**

Paper I: 35%;

Paper II: 35%;

Questions brought up during the Semester: 15%

Philosophy journal (due be each Friday beginning on 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2023): 15%.

Grading system:      A: 100-90      B: 89-80      C: 79-70      D: 69-60      F: 59 or less

**{The Syllabus is subject to changes at Professor's discretion.}**