Course Description
Advances in medical science, technology and practices have deepened our knowledge of ourselves as living, embodied individuals, and opened up new challenges with what we should do with that knowledge. The disciplines of health care ethics and bioethics have emerged to provide answers to the new questions of how health care practitioners and members of society in general should best utilize the resources provided by these scientific developments. In this course, we will examine various ethical standpoints on these issues, in order that we may develop a sense of responsibility for the power medical science has granted its practitioners.

Topics that may be addressed in this course include: patient autonomy, informed consent, truth-telling, confidentiality, euthanasia, brain death, advance directives, abortion, stem cell research, assisted reproduction technology, genetic therapy, research on human subjects, addiction, opioid prescription, distribution of scarce health care resources, and the right to minimum health care.

Required Texts
ISBN: 978-1118941508

*Other readings will be accessible as PDFs on BlackBoard.

Course Requirements
Students’ grades will be composed of weekly written reader responses, one paper, and two exams.

This course satisfies the University Core Requirement for “Ethics”