

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND EDUCATION**

**PH 3860
Philosophy and Health Care
3 (3-0-0) UT
Winter 2002**

Instructor: Ruth Michaels
Office: C212
Office hours: Mon. 10-1130am, Wed. 10-1130am

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Lecture/No pre-requisites

Calendar Description

A philosophical examination of concepts and issues central to the knowledge and practice of health care. Topics may include: provision and allocation of health care resources, rights and responsibilities of patients and health care personnel, passive and active euthanasia, abortion, research experimentation, disclosure of diagnosis and risks, death and suffering.

Content Description

The course will begin with an overview of ethical theory and principles relevant to philosophical issues in health care. We will consider health as an ethical issue, whether there is a right to health care and how health resources should be allocated. Standard ethical issues in health care that we will examine will include relationships between patients and professional health care givers, consent to health care, research involving human subjects and decisions about life and death, decisions about the beginning of life, and the genetic basis of human life. Students are encouraged to undertake independent research in areas of personal interest.

Text

Kluge. Eike-Henner W., editor. *Readings in Biomedical Ethics: A Canadian Focus*, 2nd edition

Timeline

A detailed syllabus will be distributed on the first day of classes.

Evaluation

- 1 short paper (5 double-spaced pages).....15%
- 1 term paper (10 double-spaced pages).....35%
- Midterm examination.....25%
- Final, registrar scheduled, examination.....25%

Evaluation Policies

Late assignments will not be accepted. Extensions of assignment deadlines will be considered *only* in the case of significant extenuating circumstances. Students are expected to begin work on assignments from the day they are assigned and should not expect to be able to complete a problem set the night before it is due. Students requesting extensions may be asked to show evidence of work done prior to requesting an extension. Requests for extensions will not be considered on the day materials are due. Students in circumstances of extreme duress should notify the instructor as soon as possible if they anticipate difficulty submitting their work on time.