



MEDICAL UNIVERSITY - PLEVEN
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

DISTANCE LEARNING CENTRE

GENERAL REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR E- LEARNING IN „BIOETHICS“

FOR STUDENTS AT MU - PLEVEN (FOR SELF-TRAINING)

Dear colleagues,

It is a great pleasure for me to introduce you to the basics of bioethics. Bioethics is a new and evolving discipline that is still little known to healthcare professionals and health managers. Its development has been driven by the incredible advances in medicine and the change in social and individual values over the past century, which has exposed physicians and healthcare professionals to new, complex and multidimensional dilemmas.

Several types of study materials are offered for effective learning of the subject: own textbook, additional reference materials available in the university's library or for a free download in Internet, additional reading materials, sample tests. The materials complement each other so that none of them shall not be underestimated and overlooked.

I recommend that you begin your preparation with the **“Readings in Bioethics”** textbook. The textbook is available for purchase in the library. Since the bioethics is a very fast developing

field, lectures will provide you with the newest issues within the bioethical discourse. In order to get the most out of them, read the recommended pages for each topic before the lecture.

The textbook contents also **case studies** at the end of each topic. These will be discussed at the seminars or you might get one of them for your case analysis assignment. Thus the textbook is your main reference material both for the theoretical preparation and for practical work at the seminars.

The **additional materials** include articles that are referred in the lectures and provide you with a chance to go deeper in certain issues of interest.

Index of the additional materials:

Additional material	Related topic
Lars Sandman, Christian Munthe - Shared Decision Making, Paternalism and Patient Choice	L2: Decision making in medical practice
Nitzan Rimon-Zarfaty and Mark Schweda - Biological clocks, biographical schedules and generational cycles: temporality in the ethics of assisted reproduction.	L4: Reproductive ethics
Jonathan Ives, Heather Draper, Helen Pattison and Clare Williams - Becoming a father/refusing fatherhood: an empirical bioethics approach to paternal responsibilities and rights.	L4: Reproductive ethics
Rivka Weinberg - The Risk of a Lifetime_ How, When and Why Procreation May Be Permissible-Oxford University Press.	L4: Reproductive ethics
Ana Borovecki, Pamela Tozzo, Nicoletta Cerri, Luciana Caenazzo - Social egg freezing under public health perspective: Just a medical reality or a women's right? An ethical case analysis.	L4: Reproductive ethics
Tim Bayne, Avery Kolers - Towards a pluralist account of parenthood.	L4: Reproductive ethics
Human cloning.pdf	L4: Ethics and Genetics
Tijs Vandemeulebrouckea, Bernadette Dierckx de Casterléb, Chris Gastmansa - The use of care robots in aged care: A systematic review of argument-based ethics literature.	L5: Ethical issues at elderly care
Hilde Lindemann - Holding one another (well, wrongly, clumsily) in a Time of dementia. Vol. 40, No. 3–4, July 2009	L5: Ethical issues at elderly care
M. A. Verkerk, Hilde Lindemann, Janice McLaughlin, Jackie Leach Scully, Ulrik Kihlbom, Jamie Nelson, Jacqueline Chin - Where families and healthcare meet	L6: Transplantation ethics

Before the final semestrial test I recommend you to try the **sample tests**. They include questions from all topics.

Pay attention to the regulations as they are strictly followed at the department. In order to get signature at the end of the semester, you must have 100% presence at the seminars. If you miss any seminar for some reason, you must work it out. To be allowed to do this, you need to present to the assistant an administrative document from the students' office of the Faculty of Medicine stating that you have the right to work out missed seminars (on the basis of presented medical or other excuse documents). Do not wait till the last week of the semester to arrange your student's situation. Due to the big workload, senior assistant Anov, will announce a schedule for the catch-up classes: one extra class for each topic. You shall join the missed class according to this schedule.

In exceptional circumstances you can work out a missed class with another students' group that still passes the same topic. In that case you will not be asked to present an administrative document from the students' office. However, do not abuse this option. Do your best to attend seminars with your own group.

Presence at the lectures gives you bonus that is added to your final mark. For 100% presence you will get 0,5 to your mark. For presence between 80 and 99% you will get 0,25 to your mark. Lectures cannot be worked out with excuse documents. If you miss any, it will not affect you getting signature but it will affect only the bonus.

And do not try to cheat! It is an ethics course and our team is very sensitive to attempts of cheating.

Wishing you success in preparation, excellent final result and most of all – enjoyment with the field of bioethics.

Prof. Dr. Silviya Aleksandrova-Yankulovska, DM, PhD, DSc, MAS