

Bioethics

Code: 102282
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500786 Law	OT	4	1

Contact

Name: Marc Abraham Puig Hernandez

Email: marcabraham.puig@uab.cat

Teaching groups languages

You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject. Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2023.

Prerequisites

Intellectual interest and discursive and critical ability to analyze new challenges posed by the scientific advances in the fields of life sciences and biomedicine.

Objectives and Contextualisation

Analysis of the historical and scientific context in which "Bioethics" is born.

Identification of the new problems and current debates generated by the new advances in the field of life sciences and biomedicine, especially those derived from the use of Assisted Reproductive Techniques.

Study of the existing legal regulation.

Understanding of the plurality of ideas and values around these issues in today's democratic societies.

Create an appropriate space of debate to facilitate the adoption of personal positions based on possible consensus, to evaluate the legal regulations, existing social conventions and moral convictions.

Competences

- Arguing and laying the foundation for the implementation of legal standards.
- Demonstrating a sensible and critical reasoning: analysis, synthesis, conclusions.
- Drawing up legal texts (contracts, judgements, sentences, writs, rulings, wills, legislation...).
- Identifying and solving problems.
- Identifying, assessing and putting into practice changes in jurisprudence.
- Integrating the importance of Law as a regulatory system of social relations.
- Students must be capable of demonstrating a critical awareness of the analysis of the legal system and development of legal dialectics.
- Students must be capable of perceiving the impact and implications of the decisions taken.

- Students must be capable of producing initiative, creative and innovative knowledge, as well as new ideas.
- Students must be effective in a changing environment and when facing new tasks, responsibilities or people.
- Working in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary fields.
- Working in teams, being either a member or a coordinator of working groups, as well as making decisions affecting the whole group.

Learning Outcomes

1. Applying the current discussions about gender and law, bioethics, law and technology and sociology of law to the legal practice.
2. Associating law and current social problems.
3. Demonstrating a sensible and critical reasoning: analysis, synthesis, conclusions.
4. Describing the evolution of jurisprudence in relation to the contemporary problems about gender and law, bioethics, law and technology and sociology of law.
5. Distinguishing the different critical contributions to the theory of Law.
6. Exploring the law-society relations in the fields of gender and law, bioethics, law and technology and sociology of law.
7. Identifying and solving problems.
8. Identifying in the jurisprudence the several problems proposed by subject.
9. Identifying the problems of law implementation.
10. Identifying the socio-legal problems in the current socio-legal theories.
11. Interpreting the contributions of gender and law, bioethics, law and technology and sociology of law.
12. Students must be capable of perceiving the impact and implications of the decisions taken.
13. Students must be capable of producing initiative, creative and innovative knowledge, as well as new ideas.
14. Students must be effective in a changing environment and when facing new tasks, responsibilities or people.
15. Working in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary fields.
16. Working in teams, being either a member or a coordinator of working groups, as well as making decisions affecting the whole group.

Content

Contents:

1. Origins: Science and technology during the twentieth century; definitions of Bioethics; bioethical conflict resolution.
2. Gender, moral pluralism and cultural diversity.
3. Bioethics and Law: Regulating medicine; informed consent; Bioethics committees.
4. Technology and Big Data: Research; user information; new technologies and information technologies vs. fundamental rights.
5. Health treatments: Human and animal experimentation; patients' rights; medical record privacy.
6. Sexual and reproductive rights: Sex education and contraceptive methods; abortion; conscientious objection of health professionals.
7. Assisted Reproduction I: Assisted Human Reproduction Techniques; embryos legal status; gamete donation and anonymity.
7. Assisted Reproduction II: Surrogacy; reproductive cloning; individual freedom, contract and market.
9. Human Genetics: Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis; gene therapy; genetics and eugenics.
10. The end of life: Treatment refusal; palliative care and terminal sedation; euthanasia.
11. Justice and Health: Health resources allocation; equality and health; obligations towards future generations.

Methodology

The teaching of the subject and the training of the students will be done during the course based on the following activities:

1. Targeted activities:

1. Theoretical classes: students will achieve reach the theoretical framework of the subject and their contextualization. These activities require less interactivity and are conceived primarily as a one-way method of transmitting knowledge from the professor to the students.

2. Practical classes: students analyze, together with the professor, documents, legislation and other materials to critically understand what is explained in the theoretical classes.

2. Supervised activities: Activities developed by students with the supervision and support of professors.

3. Autonomous activities: Elaboration of cases that will be exposed and discussed in the classroom; search of bibliography and material complementary to the one facilitated by the professor; Comprehensive reading of texts and critical analysis of audiovisual materials.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Practical classes and teamwork	19.5	0.78	14, 13, 12, 15
Theoretical classes	19.5	0.78	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 8, 11, 2
Type: Autonomous			
Assessment	5	0.2	14, 3, 6, 9, 10, 8, 11, 7, 15
Exam preparation	57.5	2.3	1, 14, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 8, 11, 7, 13, 15, 2
Reading	37.5	1.5	1, 9, 11, 13, 12, 15

Assessment

Students who copy or try to copy an exam will receive a grade of 0 in that test. Who submits a practice with plagiarism will get a 0 and receive a warning. In case of reoccurrence of the behaviour, the subject will be suspended.

Evaluation (for attending students)

The final grade will be obtained from the following elements:

1.1 Continuous evaluation of the classes. (50% of the note)

Attendance at seminars, based on just cause assumptions, will be mandatory for students.

Teamwork 25%.

Practical case 25%.

1.2 Final exam. (50% of the note)

The final exam must be passed with a mark higher than 5 to average with the rest of the qualifications of the continuous evaluation.

Single Assessment

First Part (25%). Multiple choice.

Second Part (25%). Essay question.

Common activity, same as the final exam (50% of the note).

Re-evaluation

There will be a re-evaluation of the part related to the final exam. For single assessment students, the same re-evaluation system will be applied as for continuous assessment.

The maximum grade in the re-evaluation cannot be higher than 6.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Final exam	50%	3	0.12	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 8, 11, 7, 2
Practical case	25%	3	0.12	1, 3, 6, 9, 11, 7, 13, 12, 15, 2
Team work	25%	5	0.2	1, 14, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 8, 11, 7, 13, 12, 16, 15, 2

Bibliography

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Available in: <https://www.bu.edu/wcp/Papers/Bioe/BioeToml.htm>

Software

The subject does not require any specific software