

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

BIOM 600

BIOMEDICAL ETHICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An in-depth ethical analysis and evaluation of present and emerging biomedical technologies in the 21st century. While not ignoring other ethical schools of thought, the focus of this course will be on the Hippocratic and Judeo-Christian traditions with their emphasis on the inherent dignity and worth of humanity as a whole, as well as the individual patient. This ethical foundation will serve as the primary framework for discussing medical decision making and practice.

RATIONALE

Students in this course will study ethics, because any graduate program in the basic sciences needs to maintain the integrity of the discipline. If we cannot trust scientists or the science they are doing, society cannot move forward. Our goal is to maintain the line of truth in science while representing the Lord.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Hollinger, D. P. (2002). *Choosing the good: Christian ethics in a complex world*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic. ISBN: 9780801025631.

Rakestraw, R., & Clark, D. (Eds.). (1994). *Readings in Christian ethics: Vol. 1. Theory and method*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic. ISBN: 9780801025815.

IV. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Office

V. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Reason through the ethics of scientific research.
- B. Reason through the ethics of biomedical issues.
- C. Articulate the ethics of modern medicine.
- D. Articulate the ethics of sexual intercourse.
- E. Articulate the ethics of modern technology.
- F. Reason through the ethics of human essence.
- G. Reason through the ethics of substance use.
- H. Reason through the ethics of the Bible as it pertains to biomedical ethics.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Group Summaries (8)

The instructor will place the student into a group at the beginning of the course to collaborate on Group Summaries. Collaboration will take place in the group discussion board. For each Group Summary, the group will discuss the case studies, questions, and other materials included in the provided prompt. The group will then compose a summary of 1–3 pages. The summary must provide a brief synopsis of the given topics, answer any questions in the prompt, and include at least 2 citations from the assigned Reading & Study material and at least 6 citations from the Bible.

- D. Discussion Board Forums (8)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student will respond to the Group Summary prompts as part of a class-wide discussion. For each Discussion Board Forum, 1 student will submit a thread to begin the discussion. Each student will then reply to the thread and/or his or her classmates' replies for a total of at least 10 posts. Each post must be at least 75 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. The student must include at least 1 relevant quote per case study and/or question in the prompt. Acceptable sources include textbook materials/papers, the Bible, and lecture presentations.

- E. Journal Entries (8)

The student will individually write a reflective Journal Entry of 2,000–3,000 words covering the assigned module/week's discussion. Each entry must include at least 1 citation from the assigned Reading & Study material and at least 1 citation from the Bible.

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**A. Points**

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Group Summaries	(8 at 25 pts ea)	200
Discussion Board Forums	(8 at 20 pts ea)	160
Journal Entries	(8 at 80 pts ea)	640
	Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 930–1010 A- = 900–929 B+ = 870–899 B = 830–869 B- = 800–829
 C+ = 770–799 C = 730–769 C- = 700–729 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

BIOM 600

Textbooks: Geisler, *Christian Ethics: Contemporary Issues and Options* (2010).
 Hollinger, *The Meaning of Sex: Christian Ethics and the Moral Life* (2009).
 Macrina, *Scientific Integrity* (2014).
 Rakestraw & Clark, *Readings in Christian Ethics* (1996).
 Wagner, *Biomedical Ethics* (2008).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Geisler: chs. 1, 8, 11 Macrina: Foreword, Note to Students and Instructors, chs. 1–5 Rakestraw & Clark: Preface 4 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Group Summary 1 DB Forum 1 Journal Entry 1	10 0 25 20 80
2	Geisler: chs. 9–10b Macrina: ch. 5 Rakestraw & Clark: chs. 1–3 Wagner: ch. 1 1 presentation	Group Summary 2 DB Forum 2 Journal Entry 2	25 20 80
3	Geisler: chs. 15–16, Appendixes 3–4 Hollinger: chs. 6–7 Rakestraw & Clark: chs. 4–5 Wagner: ch. 2 3 presentations	Group Summary 3 DB Forum 3 Journal Entry 3	25 20 80
4	Geisler: ch. 19, Appendix 1 Macrina: ch. 6 1 presentation	Group Summary 4 DB Forum 4 Journal Entry 4	25 20 80
5	1 presentation	Group Summary 5 DB Forum 5 Journal Entry 5	25 20 80
6	Geisler: ch. 12 Macrina: ch. 9 Rakestraw & Clark: ch. 12 Wagner: ch. 3	Group Summary 6 DB Forum 6 Journal Entry 6	25 20 80

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
7	Hollinger: ch. 8 Macrina: chs. 10–11 Wagner: ch. 4 1 presentation	Group Summary 7 DB Forum 7 Journal Entry 7	25 20 80
8	1 presentation	Group Summary 8 DB Forum 8 Journal Entry 8	25 20 80
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.