The Center for Bioethics & Human Dignity
Trinity International University
Deerfield, IL

BE 5900 Bioethics National Conference Course

**Science, Research, and the Limits of Bioethics**
June 18-20, 2015
2-3 Semester Hours

**Hans Madueme, MD, PhD**
hmadueme@cbhd.org

**Ryan Nash, MD**
Ryan.Nash@osumc.edu

Course Description

This course will enable students to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the conference, *Science, Research, and the Limits of Bioethics*. Cutting-edge innovations in medicine, science, and technological inquiry offer to improve health and quality of life, transforming lives in genuinely beneficial ways. Yet, these powerful advances also raise critical challenges in their implications for our individual and common humanity.

The Center for Bioethics & Human Dignity’s 22nd Annual Summer Conference, *Science, Research and the Limits of Bioethics* will examine the ethical dimensions of rapidly evolving arenas of research that continue to stretch the limits of contemporary bioethics, and explore fundamental questions of how science and science policy can function in the service of human flourishing for a medically and technologically sophisticated age.

Course Learning Objectives

- Identify the prospects and challenges for the evolving landscape of bioethical engagement within the context of shifting global and societal realities and advances in medicine and biotechnology.

- Explore & discuss the ethical implications of recent developments in medicine, science, and technology with respect to our individual and common humanity.

- Evaluate contemporary bioethical discourses in light of ethical approaches that include philosophical, religious, and other perspectives from the medical humanities.

- Promote interdisciplinary engagement on pressing bioethical issues.

Required Texts

  [If you have already read Messer for an earlier bioethics course, please choose the following instead: Noreen Herzfeld, *Technology and Religion: Remaining Human in a Co-Created World* (Templeton Press, 2009)]

3 Credit Hour Participants also must read:


Recommended Reading

- Brian Brock, *Christian Ethics in a Technological Age* (Eerdmans, 2010).

Course Expectations

Students are expected to attend every class session and actively participate in discussion. Student participation is considered vital to the goals of this course. Students are strongly encouraged to complete reading assignments prior to class in order to be prepared for the material. Students will also be expected to turn in written assignments reflecting the guidelines defined in this syllabus and set forth in class and by the assigned deadlines. Failure to turn assignments in on-time will result in a grade reduction at the professor of record’s discretion. **Academic Dishonesty:** (see Academic Handbook, p. 6). **Credit students are required to attend the conference plenaries, workshops, and parallel papers as part of the course.**
Learning Assignments/Required

- All reading (unless otherwise noted) will be completed at a level of competency which will allow the reader to interact with concepts at a critical level (note: this may require the reading of materials more than once).

- Reading assigned materials –prior to the first class if possible
  - Mandatory only for academic credit students.
  - Any required readings previously read should be carefully reviewed or advanced substitutes requested from the professor.

- Book review (academic credit students only)
  - All 2 and 3 credit hour students are required to submit a 2-3 page book review of Messer, *Flourishing*. The review will focus on a critical summary of the book’s content and its implications for bioethics. Students who have already read this book for a previous course will instead be required to review Herzfeld, *Technology and Religion: Remaining Human in a Co-Created World*.
  - In addition to a review of Messer, all 3 credit hour students are required to submit a 2-3 page book review of Harrison, *The Territories of Science and Religion*. The review will focus on a critical summary of the book’s content and its implications for bioethics.

- Paper (academic credit students only)
  - All students are required to submit a typewritten research paper related to the conference themes. The paper must discuss either a topic explicitly related to the conference or be cleared in writing with the instructor no later than the last meeting of the class during the conference. The paper must interact in a meaningful way with the assigned reading, additional books as well as trade articles.
  - Papers are to be 12-15 pages with a 10% margin (shorter or longer), double spaced, 12 pt. font, 1” margins, and use footnotes or endnotes in a consistent style. (TIU style guide, Turabian, Chicago, or SBL are acceptable formats). Page numbers (not including the cover page and bibliography) should be included.

- Second Paper (3 academic credit students only)
  - Submit a typewritten research paper related to conference themes (see description above).
  - Papers are to be 12-15 pages with a 10% margin (shorter or longer) and proportionately fewer resources, double spaced, 12 pt. font, 1” margins, and use footnotes or endnotes in a consistent style. (TIU style guide, Turabian, Chicago, or SBL are acceptable formats). Page numbers (not including the cover page and bibliography) should be included.
Assessment & Final Course Grading

- Papers will be evaluated and graded with respect to the appropriateness of the level of knowledge regarding the topic, the level of research and the development and treatment of the topic, and the form and quality of the written presentation.

- Late papers or those in excess or deficient of the page length will be evaluated more strictly, out of fairness to other students.

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Please email your assignments to the professor by **August 14, 2015**. For Dr. Madueme’s section email to hmadueme@cbhd.org. For Dr. Nash’s section email to Ryan.Nash@osumc.edu.

Course Calendar

**Thursday, June 18, 2015**

5:30-7:00 pm Registration *(Student check-in and conference materials will be available upon arrival in the classroom beginning at 4:45 pm.)*

4:45-6:00 pm Conference Course Meeting

7:00-7:30 pm Conference Start

*Micahel J. Sleasman, PhD*

7:30-8:30 pm Plenary

*Robert P. George, JD, DPhil*  
Princeton University

**Friday, June 19, 2015**

8:30-9:00 am Prayer

9:00-10:30 am Plenary

*Maureen Condic, PhD*  
University of Utah

*Rosalind Picard, ScD*  
Affective Computing Group, MIT

*C. Jimmy Lin, MD, PhD, MHS*  
Rare Genomics Institute

10:30-11:00 Break

11:00 am – 12:00 pm Workshops
12:00- 1:30 pm Conference Course Meeting *(A box lunch will be provided in the classroom.)*

1:30-2:00 Parallel Papers I *(All those seeking and registered for CE credit for physicians MUST attend parallel paper sessions presented by physicians.)*

2:10-2:40 Parallel Papers II *(All those seeking and registered for CE credit for physicians MUST attend parallel paper sessions presented by physicians.)*

2:40-3:00 Break

3:00-4:30 Plenary  **Fabrice Jotterand, PhD**
Regis University

  **Panel**  **Maureen Condic, PhD; Rosalind Picard, ScD; C. Jimmy Lin, MD, PhD, MHS; Fabrice Jotterand, PhD; Michelle Kirtley, PhD**

**Saturday, July 20, 2015**

8:30-9:00 am Prayer

9:00-10:00 am Plenary  **Jennifer J. Wiseman, PhD**
NASA & American Association for the Advancement of Science

10:00-10:30 am Break

10:30 am – 12:00 pm Workshops

12:00- 1:30 pm Conference Course Meeting *(A box lunch will be provided in the classroom.)*

1:30-2:00 Parallel Papers I *(All those seeking and registered for CE credit for physicians MUST attend parallel paper sessions presented by physicians.)*

2:10-2:40 Parallel Papers II *(All those seeking and registered for CE credit for physicians MUST attend parallel paper sessions presented by physicians.)*

2:40-3:00 Break

3:00-4:00 Plenary  **Nigel M. de S. Cameron, PhD, MBA**
Center for Policy on Emerging Technologies

4:00-4:30 Close  **Reframing the Discussion**
  **Paige C. Cunningham, JD**
Guidelines and Requirements for Bioethics Summer Course Research Papers

Have a clear research question from the start. “How” and “why” questions are important, because they naturally lend themselves to creating an argument. You must make an argument in the paper and not just recite facts or report on what you have read. The argument needs to be more than mere opinion.

A general rule is that you should consult twice the amount of resources as the pages required for the paper. For example, if you are required to write a ten page paper, you should consult twenty resources. Some of this will fall into background reading, you may not end up including all of these resources in your paper.

It is essential to consult resources outside the required reading for the course. Start by utilizing the suggested reading list provided for the course or the MA Bioethics list on the my.tiu.edu website under bioethics. Move on to reading academic articles and journals. Do not rely on secondary sources and avoid dependence on internet sources unless they are formal reports, news items, or reputable journals. Use primary sources in your research as much as possible. Do not just read about Kant or Aristotle, read their writings directly. Find out what major research studies or seminal works have been done on your topic and access those as well.

Avoid plagiarism by citing all quotes, paraphrases, and ideas that are not originally yours. Trinity’s policy on plagiarism can be found on pgs. 5-6 of the Academic Handbook. Use footnotes or endnotes in a consistent style. TIU style guide, Turabian, Chicago, or SBL are acceptable formats. Consult a manual for whichever style you choose and again, follow that style consistently throughout the paper.

Use direct quotes sparingly. Reserve the use for thoughts that you cannot say as well in your own words. Additionally, any direct quotes should have an explanation unpacking them. When using a quote it is strongly preferred to use the original source where the quote appears to cite it. Shorter quotes should have double quotation marks around them. Longer quotes (50 plus words) need to be block quotes, single-space, and indented from the left margin. Biblical citations should note which translation and be accompanied with appropriate explanation. If the citation is significant to the overall argument, pertinent biblical scholarship (i.e., commentaries/such as Pillar, New International Commentaries, World Biblical Commentaries) should be consulted.

The paper should be written in Times New Roman using 12 point font and double-spaced. Use 1 inch margins on the top, bottom, left, and right sides of the page. Please do not make adjustments to these guidelines.

All papers need to have a cover page. It should include the title of the paper, your name, the course, and the date on which it was submitted. If you utilize a campus mailbox, please include that information to facilitate returning papers.

Make sure the pages are numbered on the bottom. The first page is blank with numbering beginning on page two of the paper (the number two at the bottom). Neither the title page nor your bibliography should be numbered.

Proof-read your paper and have a friend proof-read it as well. A second proofreader will pick up on things that you have missed. Let’s face it you have been staring at this paper for far too long! Do not rely solely on the spell/grammar check.