



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Bioethics

2223-3-A5810106

Learning objectives

The course aims at equipping legal students and all interested participants with theoretical instruments for analysis and argumentation useful to understand the different ethical-legal questions arising in the various bioethical fields. In so doing, law students will learn to correctly elaborate legal reports, provide ethical-legal counselling, and write well argued opinions in bioethical issues in their future careers. Students will be asked to analyse both relevant court decisions concerning ethical issues as well as to learn how to deal with selected ethical cases.

Contents

The course will deal with ethical-legal questions related to *traditional* issues like end-of-life issues (withdrawing and withholding treatment, euthanasia, assisted suicide), beginning of life issues (assisted procreation, abortion, surrogacy), clinical research, genetic technologies (genetic testing and gene editing) as well as to *frontier* issues like human enhancement, robotics, and IA in medicine.

The course language is Italian

Detailed program

Bioethics deals with ethical-legal questions arising from interventions of biomedicine, biotechnology, and neurotechnology on humans, animals, and environment.

The purpose of this discipline is to clear up the ethical-philosophical assumptions and the legal implications of scientific and technological innovation. The reflection on legal solutions for bioethical issues is considered a constitutive part of bioethics, which therefore includes biolaw.

Bioethics and biolaw include a variety of topics. The 'traditional issues' in Bioethics range from end-of-life, reproductive technology, human and animal experimentation, to data protection. 'Frontier issues' in Bioethics

concern developments in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, and Human Enhancement. The course aims at equipping law students with theoretical tools, understanding, knowledge, and skills to critically assess the legal framework at the national and European level as well as the current or future models of regulation in Biolaw. The course language is Italian

Prerequisites

None

Teaching methods

-E-learning platform

-Use of powerpoint presentations

-Analysis of the ethical-legal debate and of the international, European, and national framework concerning ethically sensitive issues.

-Analysis of an ethical case

-Discussion of court decisions

Assessment methods

1. **Attending students:** the exam for attending students will consist of a written exam during the course. This will be the solution of an ethical case. This written exam will be followed by an oral exam. The final vote is calculated as the average of the written and oral exams.

2) **Non attending students:** the exam for non attending students will consist of a oral exam on the arguments of the books provided for non attending students

For Erasmus students: Upon express request from Erasmus students to be communicated to the teacher (silvia.salardi@unimib.it) the exam can be held in English

Assessment criteria will include:

a) written exam (only for attending students): analytical ability, ability to relate the analysis of the ethical case with the contents of the lectures, technical-linguistic quality

b) oral exam: knowledge of the contents of lectures for attending students and of the contents of the books for non attending students. For all students (attending and non attending) assessment will include evaluation of the ability to relate arguments, critical-thinking and the technical-linguistic quality

Textbooks and Reading Materials

TEXTBOOKS FOR ATTENDING STUDENTS:

Texts and documents will be made available during the course

TEXTBOOKS FOR NOT ATTENDING STUDENTS:

-P. BORSELLINO, Bioetica tra "moralì" e diritto, Raffaello Cortina, Milano, 2018

And in addition one of the following books:

-S. SALARDI, Lo sport come diritto umano nell'era del post-umano, Giappichelli, Torino, 2019

-S. SALARDI, Test genetici tra determinismo e libertà, Giappichelli, Torino, 2010

Sustainable Development Goals

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