UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Bioethics

2324-3-A5810106

Learning objectives

The course aims at equipping legal students and all interested participants with theoretical instruments for conceptual analysis and rational 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 gene editing, human enhancement, robotics, and IA in medicine and scientific research.
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

-Anlysis 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

Oral exam

Assessment criteria will include: knowledge of the contents of the course. Assessment will include evaluation of the ability to relate arguments, critical-thinking and the technical-linguistic quality

Textbooks and Reading Materials

TEXTBOOKS FOR PREPARING THE EXAM

-P. BORSELLINO, Bioetica tra “morali” e diritto, Raffaello Cortina, Milano, 2018, chapters 1,2,3,4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12

-S. SALARDI, Intelligenza artificiale e semantica del cambiamento: una lettura critica, 2023, chapter 4

-S. SALARDI, Lo sport come diritto umano nell'era del post-umano, Giappichelli, Torino, 2019, chapters 2, 3

-S. SALARDI, Test genetici tra determinismo e libertà, Giappichelli, Torino, 2010, chapters 1,2,4
Further readings are available on the e-learning platform in a dedicated section and are integrative parts of the

programs for the exam

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS