Sep 6  Introduction to the Course
   What is the Moral Standing of Medicine? What is Ethics?

Sep 11  Doing Ethics

Sep 13  The Case of Bernard Fisher: A Practical Exercise

Sep 18  The Social Contract & The Right to Health Care

Sep 20  Ethical Individualism and the Economic Constitution

Sep 25  In Re Quinlan

Sep 27  Quinlan (cont.)
   Papers: First Draft

Oct 2  Ethics and Law: A Complicated Relationship for the Practice of Medicine

Oct 4  Tuskegee as Medical Racism

Oct 9  Hare: The Imperative Mood (1-56)
   In-class Presentation: Prescriptive Language; Imperatives and Logic

Oct 11 The Case of 'Baby K': A Review

Oct 16 'Baby K': A Practical Exercise

Oct 18 Hare: The Imperative Mood (1-56)
   In-class Presentations: Inference; Decisions of Principle

Oct 23 Coombes v. Florio: A Review

Oct 25 Coombes v Florio: A Practical Exercise

Oct 30 Health Insurance: A Necessary Condition for the ethical practice of medicine

Nov 1  Health Insurance (cont.)

Nov 6  Withdrawal of Treatment: The Case of Danielle

Nov 8  Withdrawal of Treatment: A Practical Exercise
Nov 13  Hare: 'GOOD' (79-137) In-class Presentations: Meaning & Criteria; Commending & Choosing

Nov 15  Informed Consent: The Moral Agent

Nov 20  Informed Consent: A Practical Exercise

Nov 27  'Patient S' and the Technological Imperative

Nov 29  Hare: 'OUGHT' (151-180)
   In-class Presentations: 'GOOD' in Moral Contexts; 'OUGHT & 'RIGHT'

Dec 4  Gene Editing: In Search of an Ethic

Dec 6  Gene Editing: A Practical Exercise

Dec 11  Hare: 'OUGHT' (151-180 cont.)
   In-class Presentation: 'OUGHT' & Imperatives

Dec 13  Papers: Final Draft

Course Objectives
Upon completion of the course, participants will be practiced in using ethics objectively as an analytical tool to make reasonable ethical judgments pertaining to the practice of medicine.

Course Expectations
Since the course is designed to be discursive, it requires active participation from all members of class, posing/answering questions and advancing comments. Working in teams of two, each class member will be responsible for an in-class presentation (30%). These presentations consist in a summary of a specified section of RM Hare's The Language of Morals. In addition, each member of class must write a paper to be completed in two steps: 1) a preliminary draft (30%), due on Wednesday, September 27, and 2) a final draft, due on Wednesday, December 13. The paper is to be developed in the form of a pre-and post-test and written as an argument justifying morally the practice of medicine. The justification is to be derived from two basic principles: 1) to be moral is to do what is normatively human, that is, to act as human beings ought (not can) to act; 2) to be moral is to act according to right reason in conformity with human nature. One of the goals of this assignment is to see what if any effect the course has had on your understanding of ethics as applied to medicine by comparing the preliminary draft with the final draft.

Attendance is a requirement of this course. Like other courses, Ethics for Medicine, is a collaborative endeavor. Consequently, participants have a moral responsibility to be supportive of one another in pursuing the objectives of the course. Undue absence (more than two, unless for a very serious reason) is a breach of this responsibility and will have a negative effect on your final grade.

Because you will be composing some work of your own, you must be aware that plagiarism - using the words of others as though they were your own - will not be tolerated and will result in
earning a failing grade. By all means use the words of others but when you do, make sure you reference the author. Please go to the following Rutgers University website for detailed requirements for academic integrity: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml#1

Grading Schema for this course:
100-94 = A
93-85   = B+
84-77   = B
76-69   = C+
68-61   = C
60-53   = D
52-Below = F

Please note the following:
1) Final grades are not 'rounded up'
2) Requests for extra credit will not be entertained on the grounds that it compromises the integrity of the course itself.
3) Assignments, unless excused for a very serious reason, are to be completed as scheduled in the syllabus. Should you fail to meet the deadline of an assignment, you will not be afforded an opportunity to make it up at a later date.

If you need to contact me, please do so via email: tpatri@ejb.rutgers.edu
Office Hours: Mondays/Wednesdays 4:30-5:30 and by appointment
My office is in the Bloustein, School of Planning and Public Policy, Room 533

I look forward to working with you this semester.