

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Medical Ethics

Reference	BS4272	Version	6
Created	February 2017	SCQF Level	SCQF 10
Approved	June 2017	SCQF Points	15
Amended	June 2017	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

To allow students to critically appraise the core principles of biomedical ethics that underpin decision making in biomedicine, medicine, and the legal regulation of these issues.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

- 1 Critically appraise the ethical principles underlying and justifying actions, and evaluate how these principles underlie scientific, medical and legal decision-making.
- 2 Demonstrate analysis of different approaches taken in selected foreign jurisdictions.
- 3 Critically evaluate moral objections and competing ethical arguments.

Indicative Module Content

The student will study the underpinning principles, alongside various aspects of biomedicine and medicine which are subjected to legal regulation including: abortion, pre-natal screening and claims of 'wrongful life'; use of genetic information and privacy issues; organ donation and transplantation; non-treatment of the newborn; persistent vegetative state; 'do not resuscitate' orders and living wills; active and passive euthanasia; ethical issues in research and experimentation; ownership of living and dead tissues and cadavers.

Module Delivery

This is a lecture and seminar based module. Lectures provide core module content. Seminars develop associated higher level skills through student centred learning.

Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	36	36
Non-Contact Hours	114	114
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	150
<i>Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body</i>		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

Component 1

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	30%	Outcomes Assessed:	1
Description:	Written coursework exercise				

Component 2

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	70%	Outcomes Assessed:	2, 3
Description:	Written coursework exercise				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR**Explanatory Text**

The Module is assessed by two components: C1 - Coursework - 30% weighting. C2 - Coursework - 70% weighting. Module Pass Mark = Grade D (40%)

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	At least 70% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
B	At least 60% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
C	At least 50% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
D	At least 40% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
E	At least 35% on weighted aggregate
F	Less than 35% on weighted aggregate
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	None.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	BS4189 Medical Law

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1 BEAUCHAMP, T.L. and CHILDRESS, J.F., 2013. *Principles of biomedical ethics*. 7th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2 JACKSON, E., 2016. *Medical law: texts, cases and materials*. 4th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 3 KEOWN, J., ed., 1997, *Euthanasia examined: ethical, clinical and legal perspectives*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 4 LAURIE, G.T., HARMON, S. and PORTER, G., 2016. *Mason and McCall Smith's law and medical ethics*. 10th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.