# UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

**College of Medicine – Philippine General Hospital University of the Philippines Manila**

**Bioethics 223 – Gender and Ethics 2nd Semester, AY 2024-2025**

# COURSE GUIDE

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Welcome to Gender and Ethics! This is a 3-unit elective under the Master of Science in Bio- ethics. This is a semester long class that will introduce you to gender theories and their ap- plication to bioethics issues.

# COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing this course, you should be able to achieve the following:

1. Analyze the difference of sex and gender
2. Evaluate with the different gender theories
3. Apply gender theories in issues in bioethics

# COURSE OUTLINE

1. Sex and Gender
   1. Sex and Gender
   2. Sex, Gender and Health
2. Theories
   1. Overview of Feminist Ethics
   2. Ethics of Care
   3. Critiques on the Ethics of Care
   4. Queer Theory
   5. Intersectionality
3. Application to Bioethical Issues
   1. Research
   2. Abortion
   3. Reproductive Screening

# MODE OF DELIVERY

This class will be delivered face to face. Readings will be made available through VLE under the Bioethics 223 course. In order to access this, you should have a UP Manila email

address. Please contact the Information Management System at [ims@post.upm.edu.ph](mailto:ims@post.upm.edu.ph) if you do not have an existing UP Manila email address or if you have any issues with logging in.

You may reach the faculty course coordinator via email.

# COURSE MATERIALS

Readings for each topic will be uploaded through the learning management system.

**Suggested books for additional readings:**

Feminism and Bioethics: Beyond Reproduction Edited by Susan M. Wolf In a Different Voice by Carol Gilligan

# STUDY SCHEDULE

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Module/ Topic** | **Learning Resources** | **Learning Tasks** |
| Feb 3 | Orientation |  |  |
| Feb 17 | Sex and Gender | Video (links on Canvas) Readings (uploaded on Can- vas)  Lecture | Read the uploaded materi- als  Reporting on Sex and Gen- der  Class discussion |
|  | Sex, Gender and Health |
| Mar 3  Stephen | Overview of Femi- nist Ethics | Video (links in Canvas) Readings (uploaded on Can- vas)  Lecture | Read the uploaded materi- als  Reporting on Feminist eth- ics  Class discussion |
| Mar 17 | Ethics of Care | Video (links in Canvas) Readings (uploaded on Can- vas) | Read the uploaded materi- als  Reporting on the ethics of care and its critiques Class discussion  Submission of Paper 1 (due after Week 5) |
| Vange | Critiques of the Eth- ics of Care |
| April 7  Patrick | Queer Theory | Readings (uploaded on Can- vas)  Lecture | Read the uploaded materi- als  Class discussion  Reporting on queer theory |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| April 7 Mae | Intersectionality | Video (links on Canvas) Readings (uploaded on Can- vas)  Lecture | Read the uploaded materi- als  Reporting on intersection- ality  Class discussion |
| April 28/May 5 | Research | Readings (uploaded on Can- vas)  Other journals/books/arti- cles that the student finds | Read the uploaded materi- als  Class discussion Reporting by students |
|  | Abortion | Readings (uploaded on Can- vas)  Other journals/books/arti- cles that the student finds |
|  | Reproductive Screening | Readings (uploaded on Can- vas)  Other journals/books/arti- cles that the student finds |

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

## Course Requirement 1 – Video Lecture/Presentation – 20%

The students are assigned to make a 20-30-minute video lecture on the following topics:

1. Sex and Gender – difference between sex and gender, gender as a social construct, implications of sex and gender to health and in ethical issues, personal insights/learning
2. Overview of Feminist ethics – origin of feminist ethics, how it differs from the other prevalent views/approaches, personal insights/learning
3. Ethics of Care and its critique – brief history of the theory, nature of the theory, implications to ethical issues, advantages/disadvantages/criticisms of the theory, example of how it can be applied to an ethical dilemma, personal insights/learning
4. Queer theory/queer bioethics – brief history of the theory, nature of the theory, implications to ethical issues, advantages/disadvantages/criticisms of the theory, example of how it can be applied to an ethical dilemma, personal insights/learning
5. Intersectionality - brief history of the theory, nature of the theory, implications to ethical issues, advantages/disadvantages/criticisms of the theory, implications on its application to an ethical dilemma, personal insights/learning

\*Make sure to properly cite your sources

## Course Requirement 2 – Paper on Ethics of Care – 20%

The student is required to submit a paper answering the question: “How different or similar is the Ethics of Care form one of the other moral theories that you have learned about?”. The student is asked to identify one moral theory of their choice and compare/contrast it with the Ethics of Care. The paper should be a maximum of 2 pages (excluding references), on 8.5” x 11” paper, Aria font 11 single space.

## Course Requirement 3 – Lecture on Application of Theories to a Chosen topic – 15%

The student is assigned a topic for a 15-minute report in class on the application of any of the theories discussed in class to a chosen topic and the students’ personal insights/learning. They may choose a topic (not limited to the list): abortion, research and reproductive screening.

## Course Requirement 4 – Final Paper – 35%

The student will choose a topic (not limited to the list) and discuss it from the feminist ethics perspective: contraception, sterilization, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS, euthanasia and genetic engineering. The paper should be a maximum of 3 pages (excluding references), on 8.5” x 11” paper, Aria font 11 single space.

## Course Requirement 5 – Class Participation – 10%

The student is encouraged to participate in class discussions to enrich learning.

# ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

I am Dr Mary Ann Abacan and I will be handling this course. I am a pediatrician specializing in clinical genetics and inborn errors of metabolism. I chose to study bioethics because my line of work is deeply imbued with complex ethical issues and I wanted to learn how to better approach them. Just like you, I am a learner and I look forward to being educated further by my students. I can be contacted through my email address: [mrabcan@up.edu.ph](mailto:mrabcan@up.edu.ph)

# HOUSE RULES

The discussion of bioethics issues may be contentious, but we are respectful of each other’s opinion and value the inputs of everyone. We use language that is non-offensive and we are open-minded individuals. We value integrity and should not plagiarize. And because the world needs it right now, we are infusing it with kindness.