Welcome to HS2610G - Introduction to Ethics and Health

Who? Dr. Ken Kirkwood (Room #211 Labatt HSB)
Office Hours – Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30am
Where? Social Sciences Centre 2050
When? Thursdays, 12:30-2:20pm
Why? They make you – it’s a degree requirement.
How? Read on and learn...

Textbooks
1.) Walter Glannon’s Biomedical Ethics ~ new this year
2.) Northey & McKibbon’s Making Sense (6th ed.) ~ used for the last 2 years
3.) Readings and Listenings posted to WebCT

Assignments
(25%) Mid-term Exam: February 16th in class (50-60 multiple-choice questions)
(35%) Major Essay: Due March 15th (handed in during class time)
(40%) Final Exam: TBA

Major Essay Topic
Students (who don’t need them) taking neurostimulant drugs at Western are cheating, and such behaviour should be considered academic dishonesty. Agree or Disagree in 10 double-spaced pages. For more, see the document “Major Essay Topic” on WebCT.

Topic Schedule*
January 12th – Syllabus review, introductions, expectations, etc.
January 19th – Ethical Theory, part 1
January 26th – Ethical Theory, part 2
February 2nd – Professional Relationships in Healthcare
February 9th – Ethics of Health Research
February 16th – In-Class Mid-term
February 23rd – You’re on Break Week!
March 1st – Reproduction Ethics
March 8th – Genetics
March 15th – Ethics at the End-of-Life
March 22nd – Use of Animals as Food and Research Subjects
March 29th – Resource Allocation in Healthcare
April 5th – Neurological & Physical Enhancement of Human Capacities
*see “reading schedule” for assigned readings for each week.

Things You Should Read But Probably Won’t
1.) Antirequisite(s): The former Kinesiology 2293F/G, Philosophy 2071E, 2715F/G. Prerequisite(s): Health Sciences 1001A/B and Health Sciences 1002A/B; or the former Health Sciences 1000.

2.) Grading Criteria
The university-wide descriptors of the meaning of letter grades outlined as follows are approved by Senate.

A+ 90-100 One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level.
A 80-89 Superior work which is clearly above average.
B 70-79 Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory.
C 60-69 Competent work, meeting requirements.
D 50-59 Fair work, minimally acceptable.
F below 50 Fail.

3.) Essay Hand-In
Due to the size of this class, it is necessary to say that essays that are handed in on the due date must be handed in during class time. The only exceptions are if you hand your paper in early by arrangement with Dr. Kirkwood, or you are given an extension due to medical illness or compassionate reasons as determined by the academic counselors. If you slip your essay under my door on the due date, it is worth 0%.

4.) Late Penalty
The late penalty is 100% beginning at 2:30pm on the due date, unless you are given an extension due to medical illness or compassionate reasons as determined by the academic counselors (see #5 above).

5.) Student Code of Conduct
The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at The University of Western Ontario, provide examples of behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For more information, visit http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf.

6.) English Proficiency for the Assignment of Grades

7.) Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf
The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.
A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm.

Documentation is required for non-medical absences where the course work missed is more than 10% of the overall grade. Students may contact their Faculty Academic Counselling Office for what documentation is needed. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner. Documentation for any request for accommodation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Academic Counselling Office of the student’s Faculty of registration. For BHSc students, you may go to the School of Health Studies Office in HSB room 222.

8.) Scholastic Offences
Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

9.) Additionally,
   a. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com).

   b. Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

10.) There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:
1. Student Development Centre -- http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/
2. Student Health -- http://www.shs.uwo.ca/student/studenthealthservices.html
3. Registrar’s Office -- http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/
4. Ombuds Office -- http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/