MEDICAL HUMANITIES (HUM 111Y)

TOPIC CO-ORDINATOR: Professor Abbyann Lynch

LECTURES: 12 hours (Year I, Term I)
(cf. Selectives Catalogue for Year I, Term II;
Electives Catalogue for Years I, II, III).

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1) to identify instances in which consideration of human values is integral
   to the practice of professional medicine;

2) to stimulate development of problem-solving skills as regards resolution
   of human-values dilemmas presenting in professional medical practice.

METHOD OF STUDENT EVALUATION: None. Voluntary attendance.

METHOD OF COURSE EVALUATION: Voluntary student-questionnaires/staff-comment
retarding lecture-contents/lecture-presentation.

LECTURE TOPICS:

Sept. 6 Introduction: Medicine and Other Human Values
Prof. A. Lynch
Sept. 13 On Being a Physician (Medicine and Literature)
Dr. V. Rakoff
Oct. 5 Human Values and the Practice of Medical Genetics
*Dr. J. Carver
Oct. 18 Medical Ethics and the Hospital Patient
Dr. K.H. Shumak
Oct. 22 Truth and Consent in Family Practice
Dr. H. Seiden
Oct. 29 Dying Well
Dr. J. Scott
Nov. 15 Legal and Ethical Issues in the Practice of
Psychiatry
*Prof. M. Somerville
Dec. 10 Religious Values and the Practice of Medicine
*Dr. H. Smythe
Dec. 13 Ethics in Medical Research
Dr. .E.A. McCulloch
Dec. 18 Natural Death: Legal Considerations
Prof. B. Dickens
Dec. 21 Abortion: Two Points of View
TBA
Jan. 17 Caring for the Mentally-Handicapped Person
Sr. S. Mosteller/
J. Egan

(*confirmation pending)

Time: 1400 - 1500 hours

Place: Medical Sciences Building, Room 3153

Coordinator: Professor A. Lynch
Alumni Hall (121 St. Joseph Street, Room #313 -USMC)
926-1300 ext. 3284
or call
Mrs. Susan Reed, Medical Sciences Building, Room #2124
978-2717
In order to qualify for **one** Electives credit, **two** of the following Courses must be completed:

"To tell the Truth. .." (Biomedical Ethics)
Explorations of the Human Condition in Literature
Health Problems of Women in Past Times
The Anatomy of Wonder (Philosophy)
"When the patient is incompetent..." (Biomedical Ethics)

**OFFERED TO:** see individual course descriptions

**DURATION:** 4-6 weeks for each course, 2 hr/wk.
2 courses (24 hours) for one Electives credit

**TIMES OFFERED:** To be arranged; check with Coordinator and/or individual Instructor.

**COORDINATOR:** Professor A. Lynch
Philosophy, USMC
926-1300, ext. 3284
or
Mrs. Susan Reed
978-2717

**NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 1-15

**METHOD OF EVALUATION:** see individual course descriptions.
At minimum, satisfactory performance is manifested by attendance, willingness to read, to engage the issues, to participate in discussions.

**LOCATION:** To be arranged; check with Coordinator and/or individual Instructor.
Choose two of the following courses (1/2 credit each):

1. “To tell the Truth...” (Biomedical Ethics)
   (Professor A. Lynch, Department of Philosophy)

   Is "truthfulness" in medicine judged by a standard different from that used in other areas of social life? Does the physician always owe "truth" to the patient and to the research-subject? How are questions regarding placebos, therapeutic deception and confidentiality to be managed in the "good" medical practice?

   LECTURE/STUDENT-DISCUSSION AND SEMINAR

   OFFERED TO: Year II, III students

   TIMES OFFERED: January-February, 1985
   T (a.m.) repeated R (a.m.)
   or
   T (early p.m.) repeated R (early p.m.)

2. Explorations of the Human Condition in Literature
   (Professor H.R. Secor, Department of French, Victoria College)

   Sessions devoted to: relationship of individuals to others, to society and its institutions and ideologies, to the physical world, the metaphysical/ethical/medical aspects of man's existence and suffering.
   (Authors used: Voltaire, Tolstoy, Camus)

   LECTURE/DISCUSSION/SEMINAR (student-option)

   OFFERED TO: Year II students or Year III students
   (not both groups; decision by majority-request)

   TIMES OFFERED: Months to be determined
   If Year II students, T between 1-5 p.m.
   If Year III students, R between 2-6 p.m.

3. Health Problems of Women in Past Times
   (Professor E. Shorter, Department of History)

   Sessions devoted to: medical services in past times, women vs. men, childbirth in past times, progress in women's health.

   LECTURE/DISCUSSION

   OFFERED TO: Year II students

   TIMES OFFERED: Term II (months negotiable)
   T 10-12 noon
4. The Anatomy of Wonder
(Professor M. Vertin, Department of Philosophy -USMC)

Investigation of four kinds of human-questioning: physics, psychology, poetry, theology. The hypothesis is that human queries all have basic similarities, that things queried have a fundamental unity.

LECTURE/DISCUSSION/SEMINAR/PERSONAL JOURNAL or SHORT ESSAY

OFFERED TO: Year III students

TIMES OFFERED: Term II, R p.m. (months negotiable)

5. "When the patient is incompetent..." (Biomedical Ethics)
(Professor A. Lynch, Department of Philosophy -USMC)

Patients unable to choose for themselves (e.g., children, mentally-retarded persons, unconscious or psychotic patients, the child-like person) present the practitioner with particular ethical problems as regards consent, confidentiality, clinical research and certain medical activities (e.g. sterilization, involuntary commitment). What is "good" medical practice in these and similar instances?

LECTURE/STUDENT-DISCUSSION and SEMINAR

OFFERED TO: Year II, III students

TIMES OFFERED: March-April, 1985
T (a.m.) repeated R (a.m.)

or
T (early p.m.) repeated R (early p.m.)

Instructors: Professor A. Lynch Philosophy -USMC 926-1300, ext. 3284
Professor H.R. Secor French -Victoria 978-3818
Professor E. Shorter History 978-2070
Professor M. Vertin Philosophy -USMC 926-1300, ext. 3374

For a related option, see HISTORY OF MEDICINE entry.
1. Title of Course: Ethical Problem-Solving in the Health Care Context

2. Teacher(s) of Course: Name(s):  Professor A. Lynch  
Professor B. Brown  
Phone No.(s): 926-1300 ext. 3284/ext. 3236  
Department: Philosophy, USMC

3. Number of Students: 15

4. Objectives of Course:

1) to identify 5-6 recurring ethical issues in several areas of health care practice as the basis for seminar-discussion;
2) to understand and apply two or more ethical theories in resolution of student-selected ethical dilemmas presenting in these areas;
3) to examine the implications of various professional codes of ethics as regards these questions;
4) to investigate the relationship/difference among ethical legal and medical standards of judgment in these areas;
5) to learn to use the medical and ethics literature as referent-points for continuing activity in this area;
6) to elaborate a personal ethical stance regarding these issues/dilemmas.

(Areas identified: care of the dying patient, care of the severely handicapped newborn, genetic screening and genetic therapy, clinical research, reproductive technology, family practice –some overlap anticipated.)

5. Methods to Evaluate Student Performance:

1) 1 major seminar presentation on student-selected/staff-approved topic (35%)
2) 1 essay (write-up of the seminar presentation) of faculty-determined length, incorporating #2-6 above, to be discussed as corrected by staff with student (45%)
3) specific seminar-participation, i.e., 1-2 previously-prepared (written) commentaries given to the class in discussion of a fellow-student's work at the time of its presentation (20%)
4) general class participation (contribution to discussion, literature searches ...)

6. Type of Course:

10 x 3 hour sessions, 5/instructor
each session: 50 min. student presentation  
20 min. student-commentaries (prepared)  
30 min. class discussion  
50 min. staff lecture (preview of next week)
Selected films may be used together with class-interview of selected clinicians.

7. Budget: within the Medical Humanities entry.
Religious Perspectives in Medical Ethics-

1. Title of Course: Jewish and Christian Traditions

   J. Immanuel Schochet, Humber College
   675-3111/Human Studies

2. Teacher(s) of Course: Name(s) 636-7909 -home
   phone No. (s)
   Department Bela I. Somfai,
   Hospital Toronto School of Theology -
   Regis College.
   961-1235; if no answer: 922-5474

3. Number of Students (maximum 10)

4. Objectives of Course:
   A. Ethics: concepts, foundation and framework for ethical systems -
      moral dilemmas, formulation and justification of moral criteria
   B. Bioethics: specific moral issues relating to medicine
   C. The unique framework of an all comprehensive religious ethical system
      and its implications
   D. Relationships between Religious and Medical Ethics in general, between
      Jewish and Christian Medical Ethics in particular.
      Role of clergy in decision making, denominational institutional
      authority and health care service.
   E. Specific bioethical issues relating to religious perspectives:
      1. reproduction and contraception
      2. abortion and genetic screening
      3. euthanasia, criteria for death, use of life support systems
      4. medical experimentation, organ transplantation, autopsy
      5. obligations, authority and limitations of the medical practitioner

5. Method(s) to Evaluate Student Performance (Describe)
   oral and/or written presentation,
   case discussions, indicating from reality the relevance of ethical
   problems and religious sensitivities.

6. Type of Course (Briefly describe how the course will be
   conducted)

   lectures to introduce and define each issue, open discussion of
   issues and / or cases, seminar presentations by students based on
   their research, with subsequent discussion and analysis.

7. Budget (Additional Expense & Itemize)

   $100.00 to provide one copy of reading material from current
   literature to be kept on Library Reserve