

WHAT IS BIOETHICS, ANYWAY?

In virtue of being embodied creatures, and the specific kind of biological creatures we are, we face particular kinds of moral challenges: we are vulnerable to disease; we give birth; we die. We are profoundly dependent on one another, and live in a world of profoundly limited resources. We are tool-users; we use technology—and culture—to shape our own biology, to extend life, challenge our biological limits, manipulate our bodies and our planet. All of these generate ethical questions, and the attempt to grapple with these questions is what we call **bioethics**.

—KIE DIRECTOR MAGGIE LITTLE

This week, we looked specifically at some of the issues that arise from **the fact of this embodiment**.



Many of you took the conversation over to **Reddit**, where our [Bioethics MOOC Subreddit](#) filled up with replies and new posts, including a link to [Oxford's Practical Ethics blog](#) (thanks, [123abc4!](#)) and some of the questions handled in office hours.

We're seizing photo of the week credit for ourselves this week, since a simple shot of our **Making the MOOC** mugs attracted such attention on Facebook and Twitter! These XL mugs are holding chocolate here, but they're made to be filled with a more potent form of caffeine to keep the team going strong.



If you're interested in more behind-the-scenes pictures and updates on the MOOC, feel free to

check out [our blog](#) or follow [@MakingtheMOOC](#) on Twitter for occasional updates.

We can't wait to see what the next week brings!
Thanks for being part of our community.