

Montclair High School

Course Syllabus

Department: Science

Course: Bioethical Issues

Level: Academic, Honors by contract only

Credits: 2.5

Course Description:

In this course, students examine decision-making and public policy in the domains of Biology, Medicine and Health Care. Students deal with matters of basic scientific research and the social applications of biological knowledge and biomedical technology. The course exposes students to issues and dilemmas that have been opened by the biotechnology revolution. Students learn to see the connection between decisions and consequences for individuals and society. This course is designed for students who have done well in Biology and Chemistry and have developed critical thinking skills appropriate to meaningful discussions.

Standards:

LS1D, LS1B, LS2D, LS3A, LS3B, LS4A, LS4B

Anchor Text(s):

Text Title	Publisher/Author	Year/Edition	ISBN	Text Distribution
Taking Sides	McGraw/Hill	2010, 14 th edition	978-007-805011-4	Hardcopy, class set

Supplementary Materials:

Educational videos, internet activities, journal articles, other texts, newspapers.

Units of Study:

- Right to die issues
- Reproductive technology
- Animal use
- Human experimentation
- Organ transplants
- Genetic engineering/cloning
- Stem cell research
- AIDS testing and disclosure
- Vaccination policies
- Athletes and steroids

Proficiencies:

By the end of this course, students will:

- Identify ethical issues in articles and case studies
- Understand that there may not one right or wrong answer
- Develop and analytical model to evaluate issues
- Recognize different viewpoints

Evaluation & Assessment:

- Tests/quizzes 25%
- Homework 15%
- Classwork/Projects 60%

The final grade will consist of each marking period (45% each) and the final (10%).