The aim of this course is to introduce fundamental ethical approaches and common arguments in bioethical debate, and to encourage students to identify and critically analyse ethical questions related to the life sciences.

An overview will be given of the most important theories in normative ethics: consequentialism and utilitarianism, and deontological ethics. Starting from concrete ethical issues related to the students’ research interests, the students will learn to identify and analyse controversial ethical questions arising from developments in the life sciences. During the lectures students will be encouraged to think critically about ethical issues and to develop well argued positions.

Part of the course will involve discussion on recent discoveries/technologies/developments that raise ethical concern. These discussions provide an opportunity for the students to apply the skills that are acquired during the lectures.

Topics included in the lectures and discussions:
- Introduction to bio-ethics
- Ageing - prolonging life
- Research animals
- Human research subjects
- GMO's
- Dual use dilemma
- Stem cell research and patents
- Neuromodulation and enhancement
- Genomics

Begincompetenties
- Good knowledge of English is required
- Analyse abstract and concrete problems
- Reflect critically
- Communicate a personal stance

Eindcompetenties
1. Acquire knowledge of and insight in the crucial differences between the most
important argumentation frameworks in normative ethics.
2 Formulate ethical issues from different approaches and advance a well argued position on these issues.
3 Develop and communicate a well-argued ethical view regarding the impact of the life sciences and its scientific and technological developments on society and the global world.
4 Develop and communicate a well-argued ethical view regarding the value of the life sciences and scientific and technological developments for society.
5 Acquire knowledge to act in accordance with ethical research principles and internationally accepted ethical guidelines while engaging in research and associated professional activities.

Creditcontractvoorwaarde
Toelating tot dit opleidingsonderdeel via creditcontract is mogelijk mits gunstige beoordeling van de competenties

Examencontractvoorwaarde
Dit opleidingsonderdeel kan niet via examencontract gevolgd worden

Didactische werkvormen
Hoorcollege, werkcollege

Toelichtingen bij de didactische werkvormen
Classroom lectures + PowerPoint, Emphasis on discussions.

Leermateriaal
Philosophical articles from representatives of the most important ethical theories, science articles related to the ethical debate, and ‘The Elements of Moral Philosophy’ (Rachels and Rachels). Cost: 0 EUR

Referenties
• Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy http://plato.stanford.edu/

Vakinhoudelijke studiebegeleiding
Individual feedback by the lecturer(s), after appointment via email.

Evaluatiemomenten
periodegebonden evaluatie
Evaluatievormen bij periodegebonden evaluatie in de eerste examenperiode
Schriftelijk examen
Evaluatievormen bij periodegebonden evaluatie in de tweede examenperiode
Schriftelijk examen
Evaluatievormen bij niet-periodegebonden evaluatie

Tweede examenkans in geval van niet-periodegebonden evaluatie
Niet van toepassing

Eindscoreberekening
schriftelijk examen: 100%

(Goedgekeurd)