## Course Approval Form

### Action Requested:
- [x] Create new course
- [ ] Delete existing course
- [ ] Modify existing course (check all that apply)
  - Title
  - Credits
  - Schedule Type
  - Restrictions
  - Repeat Status
  - Grade Type

### Course Level:
- [ ] Undergraduate
- [x] Graduate

### College/School:
CHSS

### Submitted by:
Maria M. Dasgage

### Department:
Religious Studies

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### Subject Code:
REL

### Number:
660

### Effective Term:
- [x] Fall
- [ ] Spring
- [ ] Summer
- Year: 2014

### Title:
- [ ] Current
- [ ] New

**Banner (30 characters max including spaces):**

**New** Islamic Biomedical Ethics

### Credits:
- [x] Fixed
- Variable
- [ ] Fixed 3.0 or above
- [ ] Variable

### Title Code(s):
- Lecture (LEC)
- Lab (LAS)
- Internship (INT)
- Independent Study (IND)
- Seminar (SEM)
- Studio (STU)

### Grade Mode:
- [x] Regular (A, B, C, etc.)
- [ ] Satisfactory/No Credit
- [ ] Special (A, B, C, etc.)

### Prerequisite(s):

### Corequisite(s):

### Special Instructions:
(list restrictions for major, college, or degree; hard-coding, etc.)

### Catalog Copy for NEW Courses Only (Consult University Catalog for models)

### Description:
A graduate level examination of the foundations of religious ethics and ethical principles developed by Muslim to solve biotechical problems. The course will relate these ethical principles to the moral experience of contemporary Muslims, and explore the role of human experience and intuitive reasoning in deriving ethical decisions.

### Notes:
(List additional information for the course)

### Approval Signatures

- Department Approval: 12/13/13
- College/Unit Approval: 12/13/13

### For Graduate Courses Only

- Graduate Council Member
- Provost Office
- Graduate Council Approval Date: 12/13/13

- For Registrar Office Use Only: Banner
- Catalog
- revision 12/13/13
RELI-591-001: ISLAMIC BIOMEDICAL ETHICS

Fall 2013

Instructor: Abdulaziz Sachedina
Office Hours: Mondays 3:30-5 p.m.

THE COURSE:

The seminar will undertake to discuss the foundations of religious ethics, ethical principles and rules as developed by Muslims living under different historical and cultural circumstances to solve bioethical problems. It will, furthermore, relate these ethical principles to the moral experience of contemporary Muslims living under different conditions to examine the role of human experience/intuitive reasoning in deliberating and deriving ethical decisions. The core of the seminar will be devoted to understand the way culture provides the moral presuppositions and ethics the formal normative framework, for moral choices in the field of social ethics in general and biomedical ethics in particular. There is in every culture an admixture of the ethnocentric bound to a particular geography, history, language, and ethnic strain; and the universal, which is some times anchored in timeless revelation and at other times in common human experiences. Since contemporary bioethical issues are closely related to the phenomenal advancements in the field of medicine, classical juridical-ethical sources of Islam provide little, if any, guidance to resolve cases dealing with modern clinical situations in which it has become possible, for instance, to prolong life of a terminally ill patient or to engage in genetic diagnostics with implications for decisions regarding abortion or germ-line approach to treatment.

FORMAT:

The seminar will be conducted in the interactive format, whereby students will prepare short presentations based on the readings for that week, preparing a short summary, critically evaluating the reading, every week, in such a way that each participant will have three opportunities to present different aspects of the class materials. To encourage debate and discussion, from time to time, the class will be presented with bioethical cases for seeking to resolve the moral dilemma facing all those related to the case.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Reading materials will include:

   a. Majid Fakhry, *Theories of Islamic Ethics*
   b. Abdulaziz Sachedina, *Islamic Biomedical Ethics: Theory and Application*
   c. A. Boudhida, *Sexuality in Islam*
   d. Shrine Hamdy, *Our Bodies Belong to God*
   e. Selected articles and chapters
2. Short responses to the weekly readings and presentations in the class (35%)

3. Book review of Sherine Hamdy: *Our Bodies Belong to God* (7-10 pages) (20%)

3. Final research paper on selected topic (15-25 pages) (45%)

SEMINAR SESSIONS:

Aug. 27: General Discussion about Islamic Tradition and its ethical presuppositions:
Normative Sources and their
Applications in deriving legal-ethical decisions

Readings:
Fazlur Rahman: “Law and Ethics in Islam”
Von Grunebaum: “The Concept and Function of Reason in Islamic Ethics”
William Frankena: “Is Morality Logically Dependent on Religion?”
Sachedina: “Islamic Bioethics”

Sept 3: Theological Differentiations: The Makings of Islamic Ethical Traditions

Readings:
Fazlur Rahman: “Some Key Ethical Concepts of the Qur’an”
George Hourani: “Ethics in Classical Islam”
--------------: “Theology and Muslim Philosophy”
--------------: “Divine Justice and Human Reason”
George Makdisi: “Ethics in Islamic Traditionalist Doctrine”
Sachedina: “Islamic Ethics: Differentiations”

Sept.10: Understanding Human Suffering and Illness as a form Divinely Ordained Test

Readings:
Majid Fakhr: “The Mu’tazilite View of Man”
George Hourani: “Islamic and Non-Islamic Origins of Mu’tazilite Ethical
Rationalism”
Sachedina: “Can God Inflict Unrequited Pain on His Creatures?”

Sept 17: Legal and Ethical Categories: Necessary, Good, Forbidden, Neutral in formulation of religious-moral values

Readings:
John Kelsay: “Divine Command Ethics in Early Islam”
Richard M. Frank: “Moral Obligation in Classical Muslim Theology”
--------------: “Ghazali on the Ethics of Action”
Sept. 24: Ethical-Legal Methodology: Moral Reasoning

Readings:
Bernard Weiss: “Interpretation in Islamic Law: The Theory of Ijihad”
Birgit Krawietz: “Darura in Modern Islamic Law: The Case of Organ Transplantation”
Sachedina, “Islamic Biomedical Ethics.”

Oct. 01: Principles and Rules in Islamic Ethics: The Role of Reason and its relation to the Revelation-based Ethics

Readings:
G. I. Serour: “Islam and the Four Principles”
Zaki Hasan: “Islam and the Four Principles: A Pakistani View”
Sachedina: “In Search of Principles of Health Care Ethics in Islam”

Oct. 08: Beginning of Life, Family Planning and Related Biomedical Issues

Readings:
Ismail Balogun, “Islam, Polygamy and Family Planning in Nigeria.”
Ismail Musa Sadr, “Islam and the Family in a Developing Society.”
Muhammad M. Behishti, “Rules of Abortion and Sterilization in Islamic Law.”
M. Salam Madkur, “Sterilization and Abortion from the point of view of Islam.”

Oct. 22: Sexuality in Muslim Culture and its Impact on biomedical practice

Readings:
Abdelwahab Bouhdiba: *Sexuality in Islam*
Amina al-Said, “Islam and Birth Planning.”
M. M. Shamsuddin, “Islam and the Planning of Parenthood.”

Oct 29: Cultural and Ethical Issues Related to AIDS and other epidemics

Readings:
Sachedina, “Islamic Biomedical Ethics.”
Nov. 05: Death and Dying in Muslim Culture; Euthanasia, Physician Assisted Suicide

Readings:
Alford T. Welch: "Death and Dying in the Qur’an"
Ebrahim Moosa: "Languages of Change in Islamic Law: Redefining Death in Modernity"
Sachedina: "End of Life Decisions from an Islamic Perspective"

Nov. 12: Organ Donation and Transplant: Who owns human body?

Readings:
Sherine Hamdy, “Our Bodies Belong to God.”
Sachedina, “Islamic Biomedical Ethics.”

Nov. 19: Genetic Engineering, Genetic Testing, and Gene Therapy

Readings:
Sachedina, Islamic Perspectives on Cancer Genetics and Gene Therapy
-----------, Ethics of Stem Cell Research

Nov. 26 and Dec. 03: Paper Presentations