COURSE DETAIL

SEX AND DEATH

Country
United Kingdom - England

Host Institution
University of Cambridge, Pembroke College

Program(s)
Summer in Cambridge

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Sociology Philosophy Biological Sciences

UCEAP Course Number
109

UCEAP Course Suffix
S

UCEAP Official Title
SEX AND DEATH

UCEAP Transcript Title
BIOETHICS/SEX&DEATH

UCEAP Quarter Units
5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description
Our beliefs about the world around us, our own nature, and what is morally required of us, are rooted in a certain conception of the world. This introductory course in bioethics and the philosophy of biology questions those beliefs, and critically examines the grounds on which they are established. What does it mean to be alive, and to die? Is a pregnant woman one organism, or two? Should you be allowed to sell your kidney? And do androids dream of electric sheep? The course begins by examining certain fundamental concepts, discussing what it means for something to be alive and to die, what we mean by evolution, and what constitutes a biological individual. These questions have clear ramifications for biologists: we cannot describe changes in populations unless we know which individuals to count and we can define generations. The ways in which we frame these concepts also lay the foundation for tackling problems in political philosophy and ethics: what it means to live or die is a crucial question in philosophical work on rights, duties, and morality. The course explores the implications of our philosophical views for scientific research, medicine, and law.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number

Host Institution Course Title
SEX AND DEATH

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
University of Cambridge

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Science and Maths

Course Last Reviewed

Print