

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

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UCEAP Official Title

SEX AND DEATH

UCEAP Transcript Title

BIOETHICS/SEX&DEATH

UCEAP Quarter Units

5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

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 Campus

University of Cambridge

Host Institution Faculty**Host Institution Degree****Host Institution Department**

Science and Maths