For more than two millennia the name of Hippocrates has been honored as the Father of Medicine (or at least one of the fathers) and the inspiration for sound ethical principles in the practice and performance of health care. The Oath of Hippocrates, which he and his followers required aspiring physicians to swear before beginning the study of medicine became a common part of graduation ceremonies in many medical schools. However, with increasing rapidity after the U. S. Supreme Court legalized abortion on demand in 1973 (Roe v. Wade) the oath was modified or dropped because it contains two provisions that were inconsistent with new medical procedures, namely, abortion and euthanasia, or as it is increasingly called today, physician assisted suicide. Although Hippocrates, coming out of the school of Pythagoras, based his ethics on the conviction that man is made in the image of God, the modernist mentality, following 19th-century materialists to believe that man ist, was man isst (one is what one eats), has largely abandoned Hippocrates. As Charles Liechten-thaler of the University of Hamburg wrote, there are no longer any fixed stars, no medical Tao by which physicians can structure their lives and their practices.

REQUIRED TEXTS:


Students should subscribe to *Ethics in Medicine*, $32/year, published by the Bioethics Press, P. O. Box 1032,
TOPICS AND SCHEDULE

The first half of the course will concentrate on 
general principles, the second half on practical issues. 
Suggested readings follow the date indicated.

February 9. Introduction and first lecture. Read Nigel 

February 16. Theology of Medicine and the Hippocratic 
Heritage. Read John Frame, Medical Ethics (hereafter ME) 
)pp.1-51. Read Course Notes (hereafter CN), Sec. I 4-10.

February 23. Philosophical and world-view issues. Read 
13- 36., CN. II.; TNH, pp.92-182.

March 2. The Welfare of Morality and the Morality of 
Welfare. Read CN. Sec. III, Principles of Biomedical 
Ethics (Hereafter PBME), pp. 1-55., BEFM, 81-92.

March 9: Autonomy, Distortions of Applications. Read CN, 
Sec. IV, PM, TNH, pp. 92-184.

March 16: Beneficence, Maleficence , Read PBME,, pp. 
113-224.

March 23 (Holy Week) -- No class.

March 30. Hour examination. Abortion.Read BEFM, pp167-
223, ME, pp.53 -122.

April 6. The Expanding Agenda. Read BEFM, ppp. 227-303..


April 20. Relationships and Methods. Read PBME, pp. 283 - 
383.

April 27. "Quality of Life" Read BEFM, pp.93-163, 250-278.

May 4. Pastoral Approaches. Read BEFM, pp. 279 - 301.

May 11. Summary and Conclusions