

Course Directors: Aasim I. Padela MD, MSc, and John Yoon, MD

Religious traditions provide ontologies for the human being and for disease, and attend to the moral dimensions of healthcare seeking and the practice of medicine. For many patients and healthcare providers their religious identity strongly informs their health and healthcare behaviors, and religious authorities (texts as well as interpreters of those texts) provide ethical guidance by which to navigate the challenges of contemporary biomedicine. This course will challenge students to consider the religious dimensions of health and the practice of medicine through a series of didactics that cover broad concepts relevant to the intersection of religion and biomedicine from the perspective of the Abrahamic traditions, and facilitated discussion sessions where students co-present readings that identify and address tensions between religion and medicine from contemporary secular and religious perspectives.

After conceptual foundations for the course are discussed in the initial didactic sessions (each spanning 50 min), the heart of the course will offer a deep dive into religious perspectives over sessions lasting 1.5 hrs. Each lecturer representing a faith tradition- Judaism, Catholic Christianity, Protestant Christianity, and Islam- and will address the following questions in their lecture: 1) What is health and the place/role of contemporary medicine in achieving health from the perspective of your tradition?, 2) What are some salient bioethical challenges faced by adherents of your faith tradition in their interaction with contemporary medicine and the theological/ethico-legal concepts that undergird these challenges? and 3) What does it mean to practice medicine in the context of living a good, faithful and rewarding life? Two sessions of the course will involve facilitated discussions of fellow presentation of reading materials.

Course Relationship to the topic of “Enhancing Life”: As this course uses the lens of religion to examine the meanings of health and of the practice of medicine, it indirectly addresses the role of the healer in enhancing human life. The restoration of health can be considered an enhancement of human living and part of the physician’s role. Some would argue that enhancing the human body beyond its natural capacities (cf. trans humanism) or embellishing upon some of its features (e.g. cosmetic surgery), may also entail the enhancement of human living. Yet at the same time religious traditions and some bioethicists, might object to these “enhancements” being part of the healer’s role or to be enhancements at all. This course will elicit such tensions through discussions over what does it mean to practice medicine in the context of living a faithful life and by considering the common bioethical challenges faced by patients and providers in contemporary medical practice. Finally as we deliberate over the pressing bioethical challenges of the day we will explicate the “counter-worlds” that motivate physician and patient healthcare decisions.

Time: Wednesdays, 10:00am -11:50am, March 28th, 2016 – May 18th, 2016

Location: W-732 (MacLean Center Library)

Learning Objectives: Attendees will be able to describe and compare the ways each of several religious traditions define health and view medicine as a means to promote and achieve health. Course attendees will also be able to identify bioethical challenges Jewish, Christian, and Muslim patients may confront and the values that are at-stake in these scenarios.

Course Sessions:

50 min sessions [45 min lecture, 5 min Q&A]:

Course Overview & Conceptual Grounds: Aasim I. Padela MD MSc and John Yoon MD

The Intersection of Religion & Biomedicine: Dan Sulmasy MD PhD

The History of Medicine and Religion- At the AMA and U of C: Daniel Kim MA

Final Version

Healthcare Chaplaincy: Current Practices & Controversies: George Fitchett, PhD & Marsha Sumner
 Jehovah’s Witnesses and Medicine: Ray Williams

50 min facilitated discussion sessions [30 min presentation, 20 min discussion]

Religious Identities in the Halls of Medicine: Student Co-presentation of Cadge Ch 1-2

Religion and Medicine: Deliberating over an “Unholy” Alliance- Student Co-presentation of Sloan Ch 10/11

90 min sessions [with 10 min break in-between, and 15 min for Q&A]

Jewish Perspectives: Rabbi Yossi Brackman

Catholic Perspectives: John Hardt PhD

Protestant Perspectives: Wayne Detmer

Islamic Perspectives: Aasim I. Padela MD MSc

Course Schedule:

Session #	Date	10:00-10:50	10:50-11:00 (break)	11:00-11:50	Notes (Instructor Lead, etc)
1	30-Mar	Course Overview & Conceptual Grounds (<i>Yoon and Padela</i>)		Daniel Sulmasy- The Intersection of Religion & Biomedicine	Dr. Padela will skype in for 20 min in the 10-10:50 slot
2	6-Apr	The History of Medicine and Religion: at the AMA at U of C (<i>Daniel Kim</i>)		Religious Identities in the Hall of Medicine: 2 fellows present Cadge Chapters 1 &2	
3	13-Apr	Rabbi Brackman - Jewish Perspectives			Dr. Padela not present
4	20-Apr	Wayne Detmer- Protestant Perspectives			
5	27-Apr	Dr. Aasim Padela - Islamic Perspectives			
6	4-May	Healthcare Chaplaincy: Current Practices and Controversies (<i>George Fitchett & Marsha Sumner</i>)		Jehovah's Witnesses and Medicine (<i>Ray Williams</i>)	Dr. Padela not present
7	11-May	John Hardt- Catholic Perspectives			Dr. Padela not present
8	18-May	Religion & Medicine: Deliberating over an “Unholy” Alliance: 2 fellows present Sloan Chs 10&11		Special Topic from Current Events- Discussion of the Ethics of XXX in light of Religious Perspectives	

Course Readings (to be supplemented by lecturers and on dropbox):

Week 1: Dan Sulmasy- The Intersection of Religion & Biomedicine.

Week 2:

Final Version

Daniel Kim- The History of Medicine and Religion: at the AMA at U of C

- Kim DT, Curlin FA, Wolenberg KM, and Sulmasy DP. Back to the Future: The AMA and Religion, 1961-1974. *Acad Med*;2014:89.

Fellows Presentation: Religious Identities in the Hall of Medicine

- Cadge, Wendy. *Paging God: Religion in the Halls of Medicine*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013. [Ch 1-2]

Week 3: Rabbi Brackman - Jewish Perspectives

Week 4: Wayne Detmer – Protestant Christian Perspectives

- Berry, Wendell. Health Is Membership. Delivered as a speech at a conference, "Spirituality and Healing", at Louisville, Kentucky, on October 17, 1994

Week 5: Aasim I. Padela - Islamic Perspectives

- Waugh EH. The Islamic Tradition: Religious Belief and Healthcare Decisions. The Park Ridge Center.
- Padela AI. Islamic medical ethics: a primer. *Bioethics*. 2007; 21(3): 169–178.
- Sayeed S, Padela A, Naim MY, Lantos, JD. A Saudi family making end-of-life decisions in the PICU. *Pediatrics*. April 2012; 129(4): 764-768.
- Shabana A. Bioethics in Islamic thought. *Religious Compass*. 2014; 8(11): 337-346.

Week 6:

Fitchett & Sumner -Healthcare Chaplaincy: Current Practices and Controversies

- Exline JJ. Religious and spiritual struggles. In: Pargament KI, ed. *APA Handbook of Psychology: Religion and Spirituality*. Vol. 1: Context, Theory, and Research. Washington D.C.: American Psychological Association; 2013: 459-475.
- Piderman KM. Why did God do this to me? In: Fitchett G, Nolan S, eds. *Spiritual Care in Practice: Case Studies in Healthcare Chaplaincy*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers; 2015: 68-94.

Ray Williams- Jehovah's Witnesses and Medicine

- DuBose ER, Penton MJ. The Jehovah's Witness Tradition: Religious Belief and Healthcare Decisions. The Park Ridge Center.

Week 7: John Hardt- Catholic Christian Perspectives

- Hamel RP (updated by Kevin O'Rourke). The Roman Catholic Tradition: Religious Belief and Healthcare Decisions. The Park Ridge Center.

Week 8: Fellows Presentations Religion & Medicine: Deliberating over an "Unholy" Alliance

- Sloan, Richard P. Blind Faith: The Unholy Alliance of Religion and Medicine. St. Martin's Griffin, 2008. [Ch 10,11]