Science Seminar

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# Course Description

Many difficult questions have arisen from the explosion of biomedical technology and the health-care industry. We will explore these ethical questions and consider the ethical principles and values relevant to life. Our main areas of consideration are life’s beginning and life’s end. Being able to consider these topics we will have to include all that happens in between the beginning and end. Throughout, our focus will be on moral questions and about how decisions in these domains should be made. In this course we will explore how problems in bioethics can be approached from a variety of perspectives: how have we gotten here and how should we decide where to go next. These discussions are relevant to all THINKING people on some level. And every person at some point in their life will have to make decisions about life’s beginning and end.

Classroom Expectations

* Be Respectful; your view point is not the only one and everyone is encouraged and expected to share their opinions and views in a safe and secure environment, without fear of ridicule. Listen respectively and consider matters from another perspective. You are expected to attend to the business at hand without personalizing the issues.
* Be Responsible; show up to class prepared on time.
* Be Involved; you have to participate in class every day! Being involved in the discussions is not an option but an expectations.
* Be a Graduate; although science seminar is an elective you are expected to put forth your best effort in all aspects of your education. We will be participating in community events and your actions/behavior are a direct reflection of you and our school. Take pride in your work! Do not hand anything in that you would not be proud to show your parents or hang on your refrigerator.

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES WILL BE PUT AWAY DURING CLASS**

Basic Etiquette

All students should practice good manners in class and show civility to all. A positive attitude is appreciated and a professional demeanor should be the baseline. This includes but is not limited to remaining alert, respecting and never interrupting others, limiting private conversations, putting phones away, and in general being a nice human being.

In team or group situations, students should cooperate with their team members and obtain their input when working on group exercises and projects. Most group work will involve a required peer assessment of each individual’s contribution to the group.

Requirements

* Attendance and participation
* Readings
* Presentations
* Papers
* Debates
* Guest speakers
* Science Circus: March 17th and 18th
* Yellowstone Adventure: February 2018
* Seeley Swan Outdoor Education: April 2018