

MIDTERM STUDY SHEET

Introduction

1. What, according to Dr. MacDougall, is the main difference between professional ethics and philosophical ethics?
2. What, according to Dr. M, is one of the shortcomings of professional ethics? Explain.
3. What is a normative claim? What is an empirical claim? Be able to define and recognize examples of each.

Ethical Non-Realism

4. What is ethical non-realism?
5. What does it mean to say that a claim is “objective”?
6. What is subjectivism (i.e., individual relativism)?
7. What is one criticism of subjectivism?

Consequentialist ethics/Mill's Utilitarianism

8. What is the major difference between consequentialist ethical theories and deontological ethical theories? Which theory that we studied is consequentialist, and which is deontological?
9. What is the name of the supreme principle of morality, according to Mill? What does it say?
10. What does Mill mean by “happiness”?
11. What case did we use in class to explain the justice objection? Describe the justice objection, and explain how the case seems to raise the justice objection.

Deontological ethics/Kant

12. According to Kant, what is the name of the supreme principle of morality? What does it say? (You should be able to recognize and distinguish the 1st and 2nd formulations)
13. What does Kant mean by the terms “ends” and “means”?
14. What is a “maxim”? What are two parts of a maxim?
15. What are 3 kinds of actions the formula of humanity clearly prohibits?

Principles of Biomedical Ethics (Beauchamp and Childress)

16. Know 4 principles and what they mean.
17. What does it mean to say that the 4 principles are "prima facie" binding?
18. What is an ethical dilemma?

Autonomy, decision making capacity

19. What are the two major components of an autonomous decision?
20. Be able to determine whether a decision is autonomous by referring to the components we discussed in class.

Surrogate decision making

21. What is the difference between a living will and a durable power of attorney?

22. What are the three standards discussed in class for surrogate decision making? When is each one appropriate?
23. Who should be the surrogate decision maker in most cases for patients? What ethical principle determines the order in which the patient's family and friends are usually selected for this task?

CASE ANALYSIS

Be prepared to utilize concepts from our discussion of surrogate decision making to write brief analyses of short cases. In each case, you will be asked two questions:

- a. Who should be the surrogate decision maker and why?
- b. What standard should the surrogate use to make the decision and why?

You will not need to say what the decision should be.

READING QUESTIONS

There are 5 reading questions posted under "Reading Questions" on Openlab. Any or all of these may appear on the midterm. It is your job to answer these as you go through the readings. We will not discuss these in class or during the review session, but feel free to check your answers with others!

1. According to Kant, how do we typically justify to ourselves actions that are against duty?
2. According to McCormick, what must we do when different prima facie binding principles (like respect for autonomy, beneficence, etc) conflict with each other?
3. Why, according to Macklin, do adult Jehovah's Witnesses not have a right to deny life saving blood transfusions to their children?
4. According to Appelbaum, how impaired should a patient be before physicians deem them incompetent?
5. According to Brock, do surrogates have the authority to decide whatever they want on behalf of the patients they represent? What is one case where providers (physicians) should not do what surrogates request?