



Bioethics: An Introduction

By Marianne Talbot

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Providing readers with the confidence needed to debate key issues in bioethics, this introductory text clearly explains bioethical theories and their philosophical foundations. Over 250 activities introduce topics for personal reflection, and discussion points encourage students to think for themselves and build their own arguments. Highlighting the potential pitfalls for those new to bioethics, each chapter features boxes providing factual information and outlining the philosophical background, along with detailed case studies that offer an insight into real-life examples of bioethical problems. Within-chapter essay questions and quizzes, along with end-of-chapter review questions, allow students to check their understanding and to broaden their thinking about the topics discussed. The accompanying podcasts by the author (two of whose podcasts on iTunesU(TM) have attracted over 3 million downloads) explain points that might be difficult for beginners. These, along with a range of extra resources for students and instructors, are available at www.cambridge.org/bioethics.

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Bioethics: An Introduction By Marianne Talbot Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #981979 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Cambridge University Press
- Published on: 2012-07-09
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.69" h x .87" w x 7.44" l, 2.25 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 476 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

"This book is an excellent, unique and comprehensive resource for either an undergraduate or a graduate course. With its wonderful introduction into ethical theory and a multifaceted approach, it is an incomparable resource for the successful teaching of bioethics. The author's eloquent writing ... carefully examines practically every aspect of [this] exciting interdisciplinary [field] ... a valuable reading of interest for both students and scholar[s], alike."

Mirjana Brockett, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta

"I do not know of a better introduction and I suspect that it may become the standard text for years to come. It aims to give a sound introduction to people who have had little or no experience of ethics or philosophy, and it does so in a lively, rich and very readable way. Most important of all, it tries to engender a genuinely philosophical approach: fair-minded, rational and critical ... a freshness and clarity that will stimulate thinking and discussion even amongst the most jaded students. I feel confident that nurses with the skills of reasoning and the fairness of mind that *Bioethics: An Introduction* is designed to provide will bring credit to themselves, to their patients and to the health services within which they work."

Dr Trevor Hussey, *Nursing Times*

"This textbook is well-organized and written clearly, discussing each topic in sufficient depth to give readers a solid introduction to the questions raised. The philosophical approach not only guides readers through critical analysis of the topics presented, but also prepares them to analyze and construct arguments for the questions biotechnology raises in the future."

Jiin-Yu Chen, *The Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine*

"... admirably accessible and organised ... this book not only makes learning about profound topics easier and more interesting, but it provides lessons for instructors to become more effective teachers."

The Quarterly Review of Biology

About the Author

Marianne Talbot has been Director of Studies in Philosophy at Oxford University's Department for Continuing Education since 2001, where she is responsible for the university's lifelong learning in philosophy. Talbot pioneered Oxford's popular online short courses and has more recently specialised in teaching ethics to scientists. She teaches ethics for doctoral training centres in Oxford and in London and has trained the EPSCR itself in ethics.

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