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This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

MALA 61023: The Abortion Debate (Syllabus)

<p>Semester/Year: Summer 2013 Class location: online Class Meeting time(s): June 3 to July 5 Instructor Name: Charles Bellinger, Assoc. Prof. of Theology and Ethics (Brite Divinity School) Office: Library (Brite Reading Room) Telephone: 817-257-7668 Email: c.bellinger@tcu.edu</p> <p>Office hours: usually 9-4 M-Th</p>	
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Required texts and additional resources

Baird, Robert M., and Stuart E. Rosenbaum, eds. *The Ethics of Abortion: Pro-Life vs. Pro-Choice*. 3rd ed. Amherst, New York: Prometheus Books, 2001. ISBN: 1573928763 \$24*

Johnson, Abby. *Unplanned: The Dramatic True Story of the Former Planned Parenthood Leader Who Crossed the Life Line to Fight for Women in Crisis*. Carol Stream, Ill.: Tyndale, 2011. ISBN: 1414339402 \$12*

Wicklund, Susan, and Alan S. Kesselheim. *This Common Secret: My Journey As an Abortion Doctor*. New York: Public Affairs, 2007. ISBN: 1586486470 \$11*

*these are list prices; books can often be obtained for less through various vendors.

There will be additional online readings provided by the instructor.

Course Description

Abortion has been a highly controversial subject in American culture since the 1960s, and it will likely remain so for the foreseeable future. This course will examine this complex issue from various angles: medical, psychological, philosophical, legal, and religious.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- analyze and critique essays about abortion that illumine the legal, philosophical, psychological, cultural, or religious dimensions of the issue.
- summarize accurately the arguments of others who hold different views than they do.
- formulate their own views on the morality and legality of abortion in a manner that demonstrates their reflective response to certain key essays on abortion, which they have read.
- MLA Program Outcome: “Students will develop and execute their ideas of the intellectual connections of major and global issues by relating these issues to one another on a comparative cultural basis using research, analysis, and writing.”

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Instructional Methods

Course procedures:

1. Online discussions of essays, books, and web sites.

Requirements and grading:

1. Online participation (threaded discussions 50%, journal entries 20%). Students will post responses to the reading assignments 4-5 days each week. Participation will receive a letter grade each week. Higher grades will be earned through demonstrating the ability to understand the reading assignments accurately and respond to their arguments in a substantive way. Being able to dialogue with other students in the class respectfully and with philosophical maturity will be valued, but the grading will focus more on the responses to the readings.
2. Position paper (30%). (10-12 pages; research beyond the course assignments is not required or expected)

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Course Schedule

week	books	web sites	online essays
<p>Week 1 June 3</p> <p>Cultural / Psychological Perspectives</p>	<p>Baird, Introduction, ch. 2 (Messer-May)</p> <p>Wicklund, 1-127</p>	<p>Exhale https://exhaleprovoice.org/</p> <p>Rachel's Vineyard Ministries http://www.rachelsvineyard.org/</p>	<p>Swope, Paul. "Abortion: A Failure to Communicate," <i>First Things</i> 82 (April 1998): 31–35. http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Swope.htm</p> <p>Mathewes-Green, <i>Real Choices</i>, pages 85-99 http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Real-Choices85-99.pdf</p> <p>Jennifer Baumgardner, ed. <i>Abortion & Life</i>. 78-80, 111-113, 119-125. http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Abortion-and-Life.pdf</p>
<p>Week 2 June 10</p> <p>Feminist and Medical Perspectives</p>	<p>Baird, ch. 1 (Selzer), 14-15 (S. Callahan-Wolf)</p> <p>Wicklund, 128-248</p>	<p>I'm Not Sorry.net: Celebrating the Right to Choose http://www.imnotsorry.net/</p> <p>Feminists for Life of America http://www.feministsforlife.org/</p>	<p>Ellen Willis, "Putting Women Back in the Abortion Debate" http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Ellen_Willis.pdf</p> <p>Juli Loesch Wiley, "Solidarity and Shalom" http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Juli_Wiley.pdf</p> <p>Bernard Nathanson, excerpts from <i>The Hand of God</i>, 54-62, 187-196. http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Nathanson-Hand.pdf</p> <p>Lisa Harris, "Second Trimester Abortion Provision: Breaking the Silence and Changing the Discourse," <i>Reproductive Health Matters</i> 16 (2008): 74-81. http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Harris.pdf</p>
<p>Week 3 June 17</p> <p>Moral and Religious Arguments</p>	<p>Baird, ch. 16-17 (Leber-Maguire), 21-23 (Thomson-Wilcox-Warren)</p> <p>Johnson, pages 1-132</p>	<p>Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice http://www.rcrc.org/</p> <p>LifeSite News http://www.lifesitenews.com/</p>	<p>Norma McCorvey [Jane Roe], excerpts from <i>Won by Love</i> http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/McCorvey.pdf</p> <p>Alberto Guibilini and Francesca Minerva. "After-Birth Abortion: Why Should the Baby Live?" http://jme.bmj.com/content/39/5/261.full.pdf.html</p> <p>Francis Beckwith. "'Potential Persons' in the 'After-Birth Abortion' Article" http://www.thecatholicthing.org/columns/2012/potential-persons-in-the-after-birth-abortion-article.html</p> <p>Gosnell trial articles TBA</p>

<p>Week 4 June 24</p> <p>Moral and Legal Arguments</p>	<p>Baird, ch. 7 (Roe), 9 (Casey), 11 (McConnell)</p> <p>Johnson, 133-259</p>	<p>NARAL Pro-Choice America http://www.naral.org/</p> <p>Americans United for Life http://www.aul.org/</p>	<p>Bellinger, Charles K. "Questions on Abortion and the Struggle Against Tyranny." <i>The Crucible</i> 3 (1992): 3-8. http://www.religion-online.org/showarticle.asp?title=1777</p> <p>William Brennan. "Specifying the Abortion-Holocaust Connections." http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Brennan-Holocaust.pdf</p> <p>Cathleen Kaveny. "A Flawed Analogy." http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Kaveny-flawed-analogy.pdf</p> <p>Robert Weisbord. "Legalized Abortion and the Holocaust: An Insulting Parallel." <i>The Jewish Veteran</i> (1982). http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Weisbord-Holocaust.pdf</p> <p>Jacob Neusner. "Israel's Holocaust." <i>Christianity Today</i> (Oct. 26, 1998). http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/1998/october26/8tc085.html?paging=off</p>
<p>Week 5 July 1</p> <p>Rights Language</p>	<p>position paper due July 2</p> <p>Baird, ch. 25 (Joan Callahan)</p>		<p>Mary Poovey. "The Abortion Question and the Death of Man." http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/Poovey-on-rights.pdf</p> <p>Bernadette Waterman Ward. "Abortion as a Sacrament: Mimetic Desire and Sacrifice in Sexual Politics." <i>Contagion</i> 7 (2000):18–35. http://lib.tcu.edu/staff/bellinger/abortion/7.ward.pdf</p>

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Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege)

- If you have not yet taken the Student Tutorial, please exit this course and do so immediately. Once you have finished, return to this course and continue. The Student tutorial is listed on your personal student

homepage. To access it, click on "Exit Course" at the bottom of this page. Then click on the "Student Tutorial" on your home page. Follow the instructions. Good luck!

- If you experience any technical problems during your usage of this online course, please do not hesitate to contact the HELP DESK (at Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege)). They can be reached by phone or by email 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

email: helpdesk@tcuglobal.edu phone: **1-800-826-1665**

For questions about logging into Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) visit the online video:

<http://www.elearning.tcu.edu/resources/howtologinvideo/howtologinvideo.asp>

If, however, you have a course related issue (course content, assignment troubles, quiz difficulties) please contact the professor during office hours by phone or (preferably) by email.

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TCU Campus Resources for Students

****TCU Campus Resources for Students:** Many resources exist on the TCU campus that may be helpful to students: Mary Coats Burnett Library (257-7117); Center for Academic Services (257-7486, Sadler Hall. 1022); the William L. Adams Writing Center (257-7221, Reed Hall 419); Student Development Services (257-7855, BLUU 2003); and Office of Religious & Spiritual Life (257-7830, Jarvis Hall), Campus Life (257-7926, Sadler Hall 2006), and the Counseling, Testing, and Mental Health Center (257-7863, Brown Lupton Health Center).

****Email Notification:** Only the official TCU student email address will be used for all course notification. It is your responsibility to check your TCU email on a regular basis.

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TCU Mission

To educate individuals to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens in the global community

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