

Universities in Helsinki, Finland

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# HELSINKI SUMMER SCHOOL

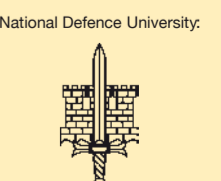
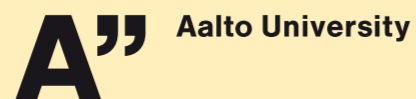
# 2010

August 3 to 19

## Thinking Allowed

### COURSES 2010

- Activity Theory and Formative Interventions
- Agriculture and Environment: Ecosystem Services
- Borders and Identities in Europe
- Business to Business Marketing
- Consumer Behavior
- Contemporary Nationalisms around the World
- Design and the City
- Developing Intercultural Competence
- Ecology and Management of Urban Green Space
- Environmental Services in Forest Management
- Interdisciplinary Product Development
- Introduction to Bioethics
- Introduction to Conceptual History
- Participatory GIS in Development Studies
- Profitable Customer Management
- Video in Research on Learning and Education
- Wood in Construction and Architecture





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## INTRODUCTION TO BIOETHICS

6 ECTS

August 3 to 19

Research on biosciences and biotechnologies has evolved greatly during the past few decades. Biosciences and their novel applications have an enormous impact on society as they shape our understanding of life, death, sickness, health, and environmental sustainability. The rise of new medical technologies, such as stem cell therapies and nanotechnology, forces us to study their influence on our world-view and concepts of life. Likewise, the environmental crisis compels us to reconsider our relationship to nature.

Bioethics is a philosophical study of the ethical controversies brought about by the above mentioned advances in biology and medicine. Bioethicists attempt to answer the ethical questions that arise in the relationships between life sciences, biotechnology, medicine, politics, law, philosophy, and theology. As a movement, bioethics began in the late 1960's – during an era of intense social upheaval in North America. Since that period, bioethics movement has taken the form of an academic discipline.

The course introduces students to the history of bioethics, to the role of various theories and approaches in bioethics, to medical and environmental ethics as well as to ethical questions related to novel biotechnologies. The students will be also introduced to biolaw and its developments.

The Introduction to Bioethics is designed for BA, MA and doctoral students. It is intended for students who can tie in bioethics with their primary field of study such as philosophy, theology, ethics, medicine, biosciences, law or adjacent fields.

The course consists of lectures, case-based workshops, reading and a study journal which will be completed during the course. Prior to the course, all students are asked to write an orientation paper (2 to 3 pages) on the basis of given reading.

University of Helsinki has become a prominent centre for the study of bioethics, medical ethics, and biolaw. Professor Jaana Hallamaa (social ethics) and Professor Raimo Lahti (biolaw) have lead the research project "Towards a Sustainable Stem Cell Research Culture", funded by the Academy of Finland. The research project has several postdoctoral researchers and PhD candidates, many of whom will be teaching in the course together with Prof. Hallamaa, Prof. Lahti and University Lecturer Pekka Louhiala who is an internationally recognized teacher of medical ethics. The other lectures' names will be announced in the spring of 2010.

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#### Organiser:



University of Helsinki  
Department of Systematic Theology

HELSINKI SUMMER SCHOOL – THINKING ALLOWED  
*Helsinki Summer School is a three-week academic event organised every August by the universities in Helsinki, Finland. Each year we give advanced degree students from over 60 countries an unforgettable learning experience that combines high quality academics with a wide range of cultural and social activities. Our multi-disciplinary courses, all of which are taught in English, aim at stimulating thought and intellectual development in an open and diverse environment. As a city known for design, technology and its vibrant cultural life, Helsinki is sure to be the experience of a lifetime.*

*For further information, please visit our website at [www.helsinki.fi/summerschool](http://www.helsinki.fi/summerschool) or contact us directly by email at [summer-school@helsinki.fi](mailto:summer-school@helsinki.fi).*