This guide is intended to help the user become familiar with a selected group of reference tools and resources related to bioethics. Bioethics can be defined as the study of ethical issues which arise in medicine and the life sciences. The literature in this field draws from both the sciences and the social sciences. The following types of literature are defined and useful references of each type are given: reference books, including dictionaries, encyclopedias, and bibliographies (5 references); periodical indexes (11 references); textbooks (7 references); selected periodicals (23 references); and style manuals (1 reference). Instructions are provided on finding journal articles on a particular topic, the use of the Atkins Library's Periodicals and Serials List (PASL), locating books, and communicating your research. (Author/MAS)
SELECTED RESOURCES ON BIOETHICS

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REFERENCE BOOKS

Guides to the literature, dictionaries, encyclopedias are listed here. Literature guides usually list the major sources available in field and include descriptive annotations. Specialized dictionaries are essential for the definition and spelling of technical terms, as well as providing examples and illustrations of usage. Specialized encyclopedias provide the background and scope necessary to a basic understanding of the topic. Most articles also provide a useful bibliography of both classical and more current sources for further reading.


Although somewhat dated, this is a useful source for information about organizations, programs, library collections, periodicals, bibliographies, databases, and reference works. Annotated entries are arranged in fifteen topical sections.


Articles average 1-2 pages and serve as an introduction to medical ethics topics. Appended references suggest sources for further study. Introductory pages include a discussion of the scientific basis of medical practice and medical ethics.


Provides extensive signed articles with bibliographies on historical, philosophical, religious, legal and any other pertinent views on topics such as: abortion, code of medical ethics, death and dying and euthanasia.

Although a new edition is needed, it provides well written and readable articles on philosophy in general.


This short bibliography lists useful and pertinent resources grouped topically. There is a complete author index and a detailed table of contents. Some entries are annotated, most are not.

FINDING JOURNAL ARTICLES ON YOUR TOPIC

Periodical indexes provide access to reported research by subject and/or author entries. Some indexes also have abstracts, short summaries of the research. Additions and changes to subject terminology can happen quickly, so most indexes have subject control to find the term for indexing purposes, e.g. bulimarexia became bulimia. Since bioethics is a multidisciplinary topic, no single index can cover the literature.


Cumulative index to English language periodicals. Subjects indexed include aeronautic, space and atmospheric sciences, chemistry, computer technology, engineering, geology, physics etc.

Suggested Subject Headings: science and ethics, medical ethics, genetic screening, gene therapy
Bibliography of Bioethics. Detroit: Gale Research, 1975 - . (INDEX Z6675 E8 B52)

This is a comprehensive and interdisciplinary index covering over 400 English-language journals dealing with bioethical topics. Author, title and subject index is provided.

Suggested Subject Headings: genetic screening
human experimentation
fetuses
biomedical technologies

Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health. Glendale, CA: CINAHL, 1960 - . (INDEX Z6675 N7C8 and CD-ROM)

Known as "CINAHL", this is the first nursing index to be published in the United States and is now wider in scope with allied health coverage. It indexes approximately 300 English-language journals for nurses, allied health professional, and others interested in health care issues. The National League for Nursing serial publications are also covered. It is arranged in subject and author sections.

Suggested Subject Headings: ethics nursing
ethics
genetics engineering

Expanded Academic Index. 1980 - . (CD-ROM)

This subject index covers over 2200 popular and professional journals. Some abstracts are available.

Suggested Subject Headings: fetal tissue transplantation
human experimentation in medicine
nursing ethics
pharmaceutical ethics
medical ethics
reproductive technology
fertilization in vitro human - moral and ethical aspects
sex preselection - moral and ethical aspects
reproduction - moral and ethical aspects
(INDEX AI3 R492)

Cumulative index to English-language periodicals. Author and subject entries are in one alphabet. It includes areas such as language and literature, history, the arts, religion, philosophy, etc. It was formerly called Social Sciences and Humanities Index.

Suggested Subject Headings: bioethics
human reproductive technology
human genetics


Comprehensive index to the world's medical literature.

Suggested Subject Heading: bioethics


Covers legal periodicals published in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand. Entries arranged alphabetically by subject.

Suggested Subject Headings: genetic engineering
medical ethics

 Philosopher's Index. Bowling Green, OH: Bowling Green State University, 1967 - . (Index Z7127.P5)

Provides indexing and abstracts for books and journals in philosophy and related disciplines including ethics, law and religion.

Suggested Subject Headings: bioethics
medical ethics

This index and abstract covers the literature of psychology and behavioral science. It includes English-language and foreign language periodical articles, books, book chapters, and doctoral dissertations.

Free Text Search Strategy: bioethic*

Social Sciences Index. New York: H.W. Wilson, 1974 - . (INDEX AI3 R493)

Arranged in one sequence of subject and authors together, indexing approximately 300 journals including many related to nursing, and the medical or psychological aspects of the individual, the family, or the community. Coverage prior to 1974 is provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Index and before that by the International Index for historical/retrospective coverage.

Suggested Subject Headings: medical research - moral and ethical aspects bioethics transplantation of organs, tissues etc. - moral and ethical aspects


This index, with abstracts, is organized is much the same way as Psychological Abstracts. It is a subject and author index to journal articles, with separate sections for papers presented to the various regional associations. Organized in broad fields of interest, the most useful to nursing may be the Sociology of Health and Medicine section.

Free Text Search Strategy: bioethic*
P.A.S.L. (Periodicals and Serials List)

P.A.S.L. is a computer printout listing all periodicals owned by Atkins Library. Look here to see if the library has the periodical you need.

There are two versions of P.A.S.L. The large blue covered P.A.S.L. was last printed in the Spring of 1990. It will never be updated. The green version will be updated and has titles and cataloging information for titles which have been recently added to the library's collection. Start with the green one.

Periodicals are listed alphabetically by title or by issuing organization. Each entry gives information on the volumes and years of a journal owned by the library, the format in which it appears, and the call number. P.A.S.L. copies are located on the first floor near the indexes and also on the 2nd floor in the periodicals collection area.

Periodical titles are also listed in Aladdin. If you can't find your title in any of these sources--Atkins Library does not own it.

Example:

THE HASTINGS CENTER REPORT
R724.H27B

CURR: CURRENT year issued of the periodical
BD PER: Older issues which are in BOUND PERIODICAL format
MIC: MICROFICHE or MICROFILM volumes of a periodical. These are arranged by call number in metal cabinets in the periodicals collection of the 2nd floor.
LOCATING BOOKS

The Library has two catalogs for materials in the collection: Aladdin and the card catalog. Aladdin, the online catalog, includes all currently received books and most added since 1976. Aladdin does not include most government documents and some materials in Special Collections. The advantage of the online catalog is that it will tell you if a book has been checked out and its due date. The card catalog is no longer active, but it must be searched for older works. Both the card catalog and Aladdin can be searched by author, title, and subject.

Author Search - A/Authors last name

Tip: Type the author's last name followed by their first initial

Title Search - T/Title of book

Tip: If the title begins with an article (a, an, the) omit it from your search strategy.

Subject Search - S/Subject heading

Tip: Be sure to identify the proper subject heading for your topic by using Library of Congress Subject Headings, the red books near the Aladdin terminals.

Suggested Subject Headings:

- genetic engineering - moral and ethical aspects
- biotechnology - moral and ethical aspects
- genetics - moral and ethical aspects
- medical ethics

This text outlines situations in which biology, medicine and ethics meet. Essays are arranged in a debate format so that the reader can explore both sides of each issue. Each chapter includes an introduction, essays, recommended readings and references.


These readings provide an introduction to key principles of normative ethics. Fundamental concepts and principles are related to major issues in medical ethics today. As the title suggests, the role of culture is also addressed.


After outlining numerous principles the authors apply these principles to true problems. Many chapters conclude by listing several cases for analysis.


This work presents individually authored chapters by leading authorities in medical ethics. Each chapter starts with a summary, includes a discussion of critical concepts, arguments and positions, and ends with a set of discussion questions.


Essays are arranged in two parts. Part One presents the concepts of medical ethics and Part Two considers cases that have received widespread media attention.


This scholarly work begins with an historical and theoretical approach to bioethics and then moves to explore specific issues like organ donation and care of the terminally ill. Chapters include extensive references and the book is thoroughly indexed.

SELECTED PERIODICALS


New England Journal of Medicine. 1812-. Weekly. Massachusetts Medical Society. 1440 Main St., Waltham, MA 02254.


Science. 1880-. Weekly. American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1333 H St. N.W., Washington, D.C., 20005.


COMMUNICATING YOUR RESEARCH

A style manual will help you consistently identify all of the resources you used, whether they are books, journals, government documents, etc.

(REF BF76.7 P83)