

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

MAY/JUNE 2006 SESSION OF ASSESSMENTS

MRT3340 Bioethics

Tue 6 June 2006

09.15 – 11.15

Answer two questions:

- 1) Who and what is the human embryo?
- 2) Balancing *sanctity* and *quality of life* is a critical issue. Sole emphasis on sanctity of life leads to vitalism, whereas arbitrary emphasis on quality of life leads to disrespect for ill, impaired, or aged persons. Discuss this statement and elaborate your arguments with examples of clinical case.
- 3) One of the principle tools within the Catholic moral tradition for dealing with conflict-situations has been the distinction between a direct and an indirect action. Discuss the application of this tool in bioethics and elaborate your arguments with examples.
- 4) Discuss the morality of reproductive and therapeutic cloning.
- 5) St Anselm defined theology as “faith seeking understanding”. Discuss the contribution of theology to the contemporary debate on bioethics.