

### 3. Applied Ethics

*The application of ethical theory, including religious ethical perspectives, to two issues of importance*

Topic	Content	Key Knowledge
Euthanasia*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key ideas, including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ sanctity of life</li> <li>○ quality of life</li> <li>○ voluntary euthanasia</li> <li>○ non-voluntary euthanasia</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the religious origins of this concept (that human life is made in God’s image and is therefore sacred in value)</li> <li>• the secular origins of this significant concept (that human life has to possess certain attributes in order to have value)</li> <li>• what it is (that a person’s life is ended at their request or with their consent) and its use in the case of incurable or terminal illness</li> <li>• what it is (that a person’s life is ended without their consent but with the consent of someone representing their interests) and its use in the case of a patient who is in a persistent vegetative state</li> </ul>
	<p>Learners should have the opportunity to discuss issues raised by euthanasia, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the application of <b>natural law</b> and <b>situation ethics</b> to euthanasia</li> <li>• whether or not the religious concept of sanctity of life has any meaning in twenty-first century medical ethics</li> <li>• whether or not a person should or can have complete autonomy over their own life and decisions made about it</li> <li>• whether or not there is a moral difference between medical intervention to end a patient’s life and medical non-intervention to end a patient’s life</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Suggested scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority</b>  <i>Learners will be given credit for referring to any <b>appropriate</b> scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority, however the following examples may prove useful</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glover, J. (1977) <i>Causing Death and Saving Life</i>, London: Penguin Books, Chapters 14 and 15</li> <li>• Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (5th May 1980) <i>Declaration on Euthanasia</i></li> <li>• Singer, P. (1995) <i>Rethinking Life and Death: The Collapse of our Traditional Ethics</i>, Oxford: OUP, Chapter 7</li> </ul>	