



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 249 Lec 01 – “Morality, Virtue and Society”

Winter Term 2016

Course Outline

Lectures: M/W/F 10-10:50 in Science A 104

Instructor: Allen Habib

Office: SS 1228

Phone: 403-220-6461

Email: anhabib@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: M/W/F 11-11:50, or by appt.

TA: Walter Reid

Office: SS 1242

Phone: 403-220-6464

Email: wjreid@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: Mon 2-4, or by appt.

Course Description

This is an introductory survey course in ethical theory. We will read selections from the history of Western thought in ethical (moral) theory, from the ancient Greeks to contemporary authors. We will examine traditional answers to the central questions of moral theory: What is the good? What is a good life? What does justice demand? We will also cover the major moral theories in the Western canon: Virtue Theory, the Divine Command/Natural Law, Sentimentalism, Kantianism, and Utilitarianism. The first part of the course is an historical survey of moral theories, beginning with the Ancients and moving up to the 19th Century. In the latter part of the course, we will consider some contemporary ethical debates on abortion and animal rights.

Required Text

Steven Cahn and Peter Markie, eds., *Ethics: History, Theory and Contemporary Issues* Oxford University Press, 5th edition, 2005.

Assignments and Dates

There will be three sorts of assignments: papers, glossaries, and a mid-term exam. Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of your work for this course. There will NOT be a Registrar-scheduled final exam. Papers and Glossaries are due before 4pm on the date indicated below in the drop-box labeled for this course and located in the main hallway of the Philosophy Department (12th floor, Social Sciences Building).

Papers

There will be two short (5-7) page papers due during the course of the semester. The papers will be on assigned topics from the readings.

The first paper will be due on **Friday, February 12th**

The second paper will be due on **Friday, April 8th**.

Glossaries

Students will keep a glossary of new philosophical terms they learn in class, along with brief definitions to be written by the student herself.

Glossaries must be turned in on the last Friday of every month.

Mid-Term Exam

There will be a mid-term exam, consisting of both short answer and long answer questions.

The mid-term exam will be held in class on Friday, February 26th.

Mark Breakdown

2 papers – 25% apiece ----- 50%

3 Glossaries – 5% apiece -----15%

1 Mid-Term – 25% -----25%

Participation -----10%

The participation grade will be based on participation in the tutorial sessions. Students will be evaluated on their contributions to tutorial discussions and demonstration of their familiarity with the reading material.

Grading Scheme

I assign letter grades in the following manner

87-100% = A+ 83-86 = A 80-82 = A-

77-79% = B+ 73-76 = B 70-72 = B-

67-69% = C+ 63-66 = C 60-62 = C-

50-59% = D 0-49 = F

Late Papers/Assignments

Late assignments will be considered on a case-by-case basis with the TA instructor or me. If accepted, late assignments may be subject to penalties, although no more than 1/3 of a letter grade per day.

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For more information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>. Students who require accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on student accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is UCalgary's online learning management system. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/services/d2l> for help.

Student Advising and Information Resources

- General Academic Concerns and Program Planning— Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS102, call 403-220-3580, or email ascarts@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> for detailed information on common academic concerns.
- **Advice on Philosophy Courses** - You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy's website <http://phil.ucalgary.ca> or contact one of Philosophy's current Undergraduate Advisors (see below)
- **Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers** – If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the instructor of the course.

Protection of Privacy

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor or teaching assistant.

Safewalk

Call 403-220-5333 (24/7/365) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and the LRT station or use a Campus Help Phone.

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12th floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at www.phil.ucalgary.ca

PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR WINTER 2016:

Jeremy Fantl (Undergrad Director) jfantl@ucalgary.ca

Chris Framarin chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca

Mark Migotti (Honours Program Advisor) migotti@ucalgary.ca

For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca)