



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy 451 Lec 01 – “Contemporary Moral Theories” Fall 2014

Course Outline

Lectures: T and R, 9:30-10:45 in EDC 255

Instructor: Ish Haji

Office: SS 1232

Phone: 220-3165

Email: ihaji@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: T and R, 11:00 – 12:00

In this course, we shall undertake a detailed investigation of some central normative ethical theories, such as utilitarianism and Kantianism. Various accounts of goodness, for example, hedonism and preferentism, will be discussed as well. Time permitting, we will examine topics concerning free will and responsibility.

Texts:

Reading Packet (available at *Bound & Copied* in MacEwan Hall).

Evaluation:

(1) Three (final) essays. The first (4-5 page) paper will be worth 30% of the final grade. The second and third (4-5 page) papers will each be worth 35% of the final grade. Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in evaluation. Writing should be clear, coherent, and to the point.

(2) Three Rough Drafts: for the second and third essay you will write a (1-2 page) draft which will be reviewed by at least one of your classmates. Some of you may have your drafts workshopped by the class as a whole. These drafts are not graded, although a missing draft will reduce the grade of your final essay. (See the policy on late assignments below.)

Tentative Assignment Dates:

First essay: Thursday, Oct. 2.

Second essay draft: Thursday, Oct. 30.

Second (final) essay: Thursday, Nov. 6.

Third essay draft: Thursday, Nov. 27.

Third (final) essay: Thursday, Dec. 4.

(3) Class Participation: you are expected to be an active participant in class discussions. Read the course material and have questions and comments ready.

(4) There will be no Registrar-scheduled final exam.

(5) There will be *no* provisions for “extra-credit.” A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a pass in the course as a whole.

Grading Method:

Conversion of Letter grades into Percentage Grades:

A+ = 99-100; A = 98-92; A- = 91-89; B+ = 88-86; B = 85-82; B- = 81-77; C+ = 76-73; C = 72-68; C- = 67-63; D+ = 62-58; D = 57-50; F = 49-0.

Final Grades are computed by rounding to the nearest recognized letter grade.

Policy on Late Assignments:

No unexcused late final essays or drafts will be accepted. Missing final essays will receive a zero. Missing essay drafts will reduce the grade of the final essay by two whole letter grades.

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

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a permanent disability or temporary impairment who may require academic accommodation, you must first register with the Student Accessibility Resource Office located in MacEwan Student Centre 452; phone 403-220-8237; email access@ucalgary.ca. Students who have not registered with the Student Accessibility Office are not eligible for academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/> for further information.

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is the University of Calgary's learning management system which has now replaced BlackBoard. Go to <http://www.elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/> for help in using Desire2Learn.

Student Advising and Information Resources

- General Academic Concerns and Program Planning– Have a question but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts' Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the PIC Office can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. You can visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undersgraduate> 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.

Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representatives

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial, and confidential support for students who require assistance or advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. For more information, see www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds. For the Students' Union Faculty of Arts rep: arts1@ucalgary.ca.

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 FALL 2014:

Chris Framarin (Undergrad Director) chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca

Reid Buchanan buchanar@ucalgary.ca

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

For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact

Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca)