



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

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

**Fall Term 2012**

**Course Outline**

**Lectures: 12:30 – 1:45 Tuesdays and Thursdays, A 140**

**Instructor:** Chris Framarin

**Office:** SS 1236

**Phone:** 403-220-5532

**Email:** [chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca](mailto:chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca)

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 9:50 – 10:50 and by appointment

**Teaching Assistant:** Dan Kary

**Office:** SS 1239

**Email:** [dakary@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dakary@ucalgary.ca)

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 2:00 – 3:00 and by appointment

**Course Description**

This course serves as an introduction to theories and topics in ethics, such as consequentialism, deontology, virtue ethics, hedonism, psychological egoism, and ethical relativism.

**Required Text**

Shafer-Landau, Russ. *The Fundamentals of Ethics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press). Available at the University Bookstore.

**Evaluation**

Three Papers (3-5 pages each).

Paper One (Thursday, October 4)	25%
Paper Two (Thursday, November 1)	35%
Paper Three (Thursday, December 6)	40%

There will be no Registrar-scheduled final exam.

**Grading Method**

Grades will be calculated as follows:

96-100 = A+	80-84.9 = B+	65-69.9 = C+	53-54.9 = D+
90-95.9 = A	75-79.9 = B	60-64.9 = C	50-52.9 = D
85-89.9 = A-	70-74.9 = B-	55-59.9 = C-	< 50 = F

## **Policies**

I expect students to attend every class and arrive on time, with homework assignments complete, ready to participate in class discussion.

Papers must be turned in on the day they are due.

## **Course Schedule (Subject to Minor Revision during Semester)**

### **Week One**

Tuesday, Sept. 11

Introduction to Ethics

HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 21-32

Thursday, Sept. 13

Hedonism as an Account of Welfare

HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 32-41

### **Week Two**

Tuesday, Sept. 18

Objections to Hedonism

HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 42-50

Thursday, Sept. 20

The Desire Theory as an Account of Welfare

HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 49-58

### **Week Three**

Tuesday, Sept. 25

Objections to the Desire Theory

First Paper Assigned, Due Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> (in-class)

HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 61-73

Thursday, Sept. 27

Religion and Morality

HW: Shafer-Landau pp.74-88

### **Week Four**

Tuesday, Oct. 2

Natural Law Theory

HW: Finish First Paper, Shafer-Landau pp. 89-103

Thursday, Oct. 4

First Paper Due

Psychological Egoism

HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 104-116

### **Week Five**

Tuesday, Oct. 9

Ethical Egoism  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 117-132

Thursday, Oct. 11  
Introduction to Consequentialism  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 133-153

### **Week Six**

Tuesday, Oct. 16  
Objections to Consequentialism  
HW: Catch-Up on All Readings

Thursday, Oct. 18  
Conclude Material through Consequentialism  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp.154-167

### **Week Seven**

Tuesday, Oct. 23  
The Kantian Perspective: Fairness and Justice  
Second Paper Assigned, Due Thursday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> (in-class)  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 168-185

Thursday, Oct. 25  
The Kantian Perspective: Autonomy and Respect  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 187-200

### **Week Eight**

Tuesday, Oct. 30  
The Social Contract Theory  
HW: Finish Second Paper, Shafer-Landau pp. 201-213

Thursday, Nov. 1  
Second Paper Due  
Objections to the Social Contract Theory  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 214-231

### **Week Nine**

Tuesday, Nov. 6  
Ethical Pluralism and Absolute Moral Rules  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 232-251

Thursday, Nov. 8  
Prima Facie Duties and Ethical Particularism  
HW: Catch-Up on All Readings

### **Week Ten**

Tuesday, Nov. 13  
Reading Day. No Class.

Thursday, Nov. 15  
Conclude Material through Prima Facie Duties and Ethical Particularism  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 252-271

### **Week Eleven**

Tuesday, Nov. 20  
Virtue Ethics  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 272-286

Thursday, Nov. 22  
Feminist Ethics  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 289-305

### **Week Twelve**

Tuesday, Nov. 27  
Ethical Relativism  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 306-318

Thursday, Nov. 29  
Moral Nihilism  
HW: Shafer-Landau pp. 320-337

### **Week Thirteen**

Tuesday, Dec. 4  
Arguments against Moral Objectivity  
HW: Complete All Readings

Thursday, Dec. 6  
Course Conclusion  
Final Papers Due

### **INTELLECTUAL HONESTY**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, 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 and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that plagiarism exists when:

- *the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test;*
- *parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;*
- *the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source; and/or*
- *a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.*

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism occurs not

only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal 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.

### **STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVES**

The Faculty of Arts Representatives are: Sarah Damberger [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca); Hana Kadri [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca); Kelsy Norman [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca); Jack Mills [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial FOIP Act in all aspects of its operations as a publicly funded institution. 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.

### **SAFEWALK**

Call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and LRT station. Or use a Campus Help phone.

#### **PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT**

The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the Social Sciences Building and on the web at [www.phil.ucalgary.ca](http://www.phil.ucalgary.ca)

#### **PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR FALL 2012:**

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