



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Philosophy

PHIL 249 Lec 02
“Morality, Virtue, and Society”
FALL 2020

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor Name: Dan Kary
Email: dakary@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: By appointment via skype or zoom

Teaching Assistant Name: Tyler Wark
Email: tyler.wark@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: By appointment via zoom

COURSE DELIVERY INFORMATION

- Lectures: Asynchronous – Links to pre-recorded lecture videos will be posted on D2L which can be accessed any at time.
- Discussion: Asynchronous – Class discussion take place at any time via forums on D2L.
- Tutorials: Synchronous – Your TA will meet with you via Zoom for tutorials at the originally scheduled times:

TUT 5 W 10:00 - 10:50
TUT 6 W 11:00 - 11:50
TUT 7 F 09:00 - 09:50
TUT 8 F 10:00 - 10:50

PREREQUISITE(S)

There are no prerequisites for this course.

COURSE INFORMATION

This course serves as an introduction to topics and theories in ethics. Topics include: ethical skepticism, ethical objectivism, as well as the ethical evaluations of actions, lives, and persons. Topics will be discussed under the lens of various ethical theories including: ethical relativism, ethical nihilism, hedonism, desire satisfaction theory, divine command theory, natural law theory, egoism, consequentialism, deontology, contractarianism, virtue ethics, and ethics of care.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Broad knowledge and comprehension of a diverse set of philosophical issues, concepts, problems, traditions, and views in ethics.
- Ability to distinguish different kinds of moral appraisals.
- Ability to critically, fairly, clearly, thoughtfully, and charitably, state, explain, evaluate, and discuss basic arguments and ideas for various positions in ethics.
- Ability to construct and communicate ideas and arguments that are convincing, plausible, and productive in support of one’s own positions relating to topics in ethics.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Shafer-Landau, Russ. *The Fundamentals of Ethics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press). Any edition is acceptable, but the latest is the 5th edition.

REMOTE LEARNING CONTEXT

I acknowledge the difficult and complex circumstances in which the course is taking place. The remote teaching and learning context are new to most. I will do my best to interact with empathy and care. I ask and that all other participations in the course try their best to do the same.

COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

Participation 10%

The participation grade is based on regular, polite, civil, respectful, and thoughtful participation in class discussions and/or tutorials (where attendance alone does not count towards the participation grade.)

Exams

Test One (Friday, September 25)	25%
Test Two (Friday, October 23)	25%
Test Three (Friday, November 20)	25%
Quiz (Wednesday, December 9)	15%

There will be no registrar-scheduled final exam.

Exams can be accessed via D2L under “assessments”. You have a limited time to write the exam once started, and the exam will only be available for a 24 hour period. Exams cannot be taken on days other than those indicated, unless communicated otherwise, without prior arrangement or an acceptable excuse (see “absence or missed course assessments” below).

Letter Grade Conversion Table

A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

A+ 95-100	B+ 80-84.9	C+ 67-69.9	D+ 55-59.9
A 90-94.9	B 75-79.9	C 63-66.9	D 50-54.9
A- 85-89.9	B- 70-74.9	C- 60-62.9	F 0-49.9

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Accommodations

It is the student’s responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. The student accommodation policy can be found at ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

Absence or Missed Course Assessments

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

Student Support and Resources

Full details and information about the following resources can be found at ucalgary.ca/Registrar/registration/course-outlines

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

Academic Advising

If you are a student in the Faculty of Arts, you can speak to an academic advisor in the Arts Students' Centre about course planning, course selection, registration, program progression and more. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit phil.ucalgary.ca. Further academic guidance is available by contacting David Dick (Undergraduate Program Director dgdick@ucalgary.ca) or Jeremy Fantl (Honours Advisor jfantl@ucalgary.ca). If you have questions regarding registration, please email Rebecca Lesser (Undergraduate Program Administrator phildept@ucalgary.ca).

Writing Assessment and Support

The assessment of all written assignments—and, to a lesser extent, written exam responses—is based in part on writing skills. This includes correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.), as well as general clarity and organization. Research papers must include a thorough and accurate citation of sources. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services for assistance. For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Required Technology

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Responsible Use of D2L

Important information and communication about this course will be posted on D2L (Desire2Learn), UCalgary's online learning management system. Visit ucalgary.service-now.com/it for how-to information and technical assistance.

All users of D2L are bound by the guidelines on the responsible use of D2L posted here:

<https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/commitment-to-the-responsible-use-of-d2l/>. The instructor may establish additional specific course policies for D2L, Zoom, and any other technologies used to support remote learning. Instructional materials, including audio or video recordings of lectures, may not be posted outside of the course D2L site. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the [University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy](#).

Media Recording

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

Academic Misconduct/Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which will be an F on the assignment or an F in the course, and possibly a disciplinary sanction such as probation, suspension, or expulsion. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

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 referencing, please consult your instructor.

University Policies

The Instructor Intellectual Property Policy is available at ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip. The instructor (or TA) must return graded assignments *directly* to the student UNLESS written permission to do otherwise has been provided.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html).