



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 249 Lec 1

“Morality, Virtue and Society”

Winter Term 2017

Course Outline

Lectures: Mon/Wed/Fri 11:00 – 11:50 in ENA 101

Instructor: Allen Habib
Office: Social Science 1248
Office Phone: 403-220-6461
Email: anhajib@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: M/W/F 2:00-3:00

Teaching Asst: Evangelian Collings
Office: Social Science 1242
Office Phone: 403-220-6464
Email: evangelian.collings@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: T/R 4:00-5:00

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.

Prerequisites:

None

Course Learning Outcomes

- Broad knowledge of diverse philosophical issues, problems, traditions, and views;
- Ability to critically digest, interpret, and analyze complex sources;
- Ability to write a convincing argument that takes adequate account of alternative positions;

Required/Recommended Texts (including electronic resources):

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

Course Assessment

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 12**

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

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 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 26.**

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.

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

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. Important information and communications about this course may be posted on D2L. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/services/d2l> for help.

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 Undergraduate Advisors. Jeremy Fantl (jfantl@ucalgary.ca), Reid Buchanan (buchanan@ucalgary.ca), Megan Delehanty (mdelehan@ucalgary.ca).

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 Department Manager, Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca). Include the specific course information and your UCID number in your request.

Writing

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

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.

Internet and Electronic Communication Devices

Devices such as laptops must be used exclusively for instructional purposes and must not cause disruption to the instructor or to fellow students. Cell phones should be set to silent mode during lectures. Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy

Emergency Evacuation:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.

Other Helpful Contacts

- Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.
- Faculty of Arts Student Representatives: 403-220-6552, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- Student Ombudsman: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>