



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

## PHIL 345 Lec 01 – Issues in Environmental Ethics

Winter Term 2013

### Course Outline

**Lectures:** Tuesday & Thursday 11:00-12:15 in Science Theatres (ST) 131

**Instructor:** Allen Habib

**Office:** Social Science 1228

**Phone:** 403-220-6461

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

**Office Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday, 1:30-2:30

### Course Description

The goal of the course is to introduce students to the philosophical issues concerning the environment. Basic ethical theories and concepts, as well as specific issues such as animal rights, human and global ecology, production, consumption and pollution will be covered in detail.

### Required Texts

The text will be *Environmental Ethics: an Anthology*, Light and Rolston, eds., (Blackwell 2008). It is available in the bookstore, as well as online.

### Evaluation

There will be three grades assigned in the course

-A mid-term exam, worth 30%

-A research term paper, worth 35%

-A choice between a second paper and a group presentation, worth 35%

**Mid-Term Exam:** The mid-term will be an in class exam, comprised off both short and long answer questions. It is scheduled for **Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**.

**Term Paper:** The term papers must be research papers on an issue pertinent to the class, 8-10 pages (2000-2500 words) long, with a bibliography. The first is due after the break on **Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**. The second is due on the last day of classes, **Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**. See below for the decision to do a second paper or presentation.

**Group Presentations:** Students must decide by the first paper deadline (**February 26<sup>th</sup>**) whether they want to do a group presentation. Those who choose to do a group presentation can submit either the first or second paper. I will ask for lists of groups during the first week back from break (**February 26-28**). Groups must set a date and topic with me by **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**.

Groups of 5-6 members must present an analysis of a relevant issue to the class for 15 minutes, followed by 5 minutes of questions. The group must also submit a short (2-3 pages) synopsis of the presentation, and a bibliography. A grade will be assigned to the group as a whole. The presentations will be held on the last two weeks of classes, **April 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>**.

Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of your work for this course. For further explanation, see the University Calendar at:  
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>.

There is **no** registrar-scheduled final exam for this course

### **Grading Method**

A letter grade from D to A will be assessed for each assignment. The final grade will be calculated by using the GPA equivalents, with the following distribution:

A+=4.0	A=4.0	A-=3.7
B+=3.3	B=3.0	B-=2.7
C+=2.3	C=2.0	C-=1.7
D+=1.3	D=1.0	
F=0		

So, for example, a student who received an A- on the mid-term exam, a B on the paper, a B+ on the group presentation would receive a final grade of **B+**  
 $(3.7*0.30) + (3.0*0.35) + (3.3*0.35) = 3.3 = B+$

GPA scores will be calculated to 1 decimal place.

A+ is awarded for outstanding work, although its GPA value is identical to an A grade.

All assignments need to be completed to receive a passing grade in the course.

### **Policy on Late Assignments**

Late assignments will be accepted on a case-by-case basis, with some penalty attached, generally not more than one letter grade per week. There will be a drop box for the course, located in the philosophy department offices, on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the social science building. The boxes are emptied daily at 4:00 pm.

### **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 WINTER 2013:**

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