



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Philosophy

PHIL 347 Lec 01
Contemporary Moral Problems
Winter 2022

Tuesday/Thursday, 9:30am-10:45am, MS 217 (Zoom until at least Jan 27th)

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor Name: Jennifer Warriner, PhD.

Email: jennifer.warriner@ucalgary.ca (You can expect a response in 24-48 hours)

Office: TBD

Office Hours: Wednesday-Friday, afternoons. (Send me an email and we can arrange a time to meet.)

Office Phone: TBD

COURSE INFORMATION

This course is intended to introduce students to contemporary moral problems. No prior experience in philosophy is necessary, only a desire to discuss and to think about the following issues:

- Is it wrong to eat animals?
- What, if anything, do we owe to the environment?
- Is abortion morally permissible?
- Is pornography harmful to women? To men? To both? To neither?
- Do individuals have a right to hate speech or should hate speech be prohibited?

PREREQUISITE(S)

There are no prerequisites for this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course has two key aims. The first aim is to introduce students to important philosophical problems in normative and applied ethics. We will read and critically examine how classic and contemporary philosophers have responded to these problems. The second aim is to give students an opportunity to improve those skills that are necessary for success in university and beyond, namely the ability to think critically; to read with a careful eye; to listen to others and engage in respectful argumentation; and to write with clear, concise prose.

REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS, READINGS AND MATERIALS

None. All readings will be posted on D2L. See the reading schedule below.

COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

Assessment Components and Grading Schemes

- First paper, due Monday, February 21st: 30%
- Second paper, due Monday, March 28th: 35%
- Third paper, due Tuesday, April 19th: 35%

- All assignments should be submitted to D2L.
- A passing grade on any particular component of a course is not essential for the student to pass the course as a whole.
- Students may submit late assignments, but will be penalized by 2%/day.
- Prior to the withdraw deadline, students must have received: grades for a minimum 30% of the course grade OR (for non-graded courses) formal feedback based on their performance in the course
- The following grade scale will be used for assigning grades:

A+: 96-100	A: 90-95	A-: 88-89
B+: 84-87	B: 80-83	B-: 78-79
C+: 74-77	C: 70-73	C-: 68-69
D+: 64-67	D: 60-63	F: <60

Exams

- There is no final exam in the course.

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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.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/current-students/student-services

- 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 <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising> for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit arts.ucalgary.ca/philosophy. Further academic guidance is available by contacting Jeremy Fantl (Undergraduate Program Director jfantl@ucalgary.ca) or David Dick (Honours Advisor dgdick@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/student-services/student-success.

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 <https://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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Intellectual-Property-Policy.pdf

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>. 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 (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>).