



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 649 Lec 01 – Topics in Ethics  
Topic 02: Animal Ethics

Winter Term 2011

Course Outline

**Lectures:** 4:00-6:30 Thursday, ST 055

**Instructor:** Chris Framarin

**Office:** SS 1212

**Phone:** 403-220-5532

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

**Office Hours :** 2:00-4:00 Tuesdays and by appointment

***Course Description***

This course focuses on the following questions: Do animals have direct moral standing? (That is, should we consider animals for their own sakes when deliberating on actions that might affect them?) What might be the basis for the moral standing of animals (being alive, being sentient, beings subjects-of-lives)? Do all animals have direct moral standing, or only some? Do animals have rights? How does the moral standing or rights of animals compare to the direct moral standing or rights of human beings? Do things other than human beings and animals have direct moral standing or rights?

***Required Texts***

Singer, Peter. 1999. *Practical Ethics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

Regan, Tom. 2004. *The Case for Animal Rights* (Berkeley: University of California Press).

Additional articles available online.

**\*\* There is an assignment for the first class meeting: Singer, chapter three: "Equality for Animals"**

***Evaluation***

Participation in in-class discussion	10%
Paper 1 and in-class presentation (4-5 pgs.)	15%
Paper 2 and in-class presentation (4-5 pgs.)	15%
Paper 3 (4-5 pgs.)	15%
Final Paper (8-12 pgs.) (Due Tuesday, April 19)	45%

My expectation for participation is that students will participate in the discussion of every in-class presentation (including my lectures).

Students will sign up for in-class presentations, and the dates for these will depend on which presentations the student signs up for.

The final paper can be based on one of the shorter papers.

A passing grade is not required on any single assignment.

There will be no Registrar-scheduled final exam.

### ***Grading Method***

95-100 = A+	78-80.0 = B+	68-70.9 = C+	58-60.9 = D+
85-94.9 = A	75-77.9 = B	65-67.9 = C	50-57.9 = D
81-84.9 = A-	71-74.9 = B-	61-64.9 = C-	< 50 = F

### ***Policy on Late Assignments***

I do not accept late assignments without prior approval (and very good reason).

### **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 Laura Golebiowski ([arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)), Bhuvana Sankaranarayanan ([arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca)), Lara Schmitz ([arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca)), and Vincent St. Pierre ([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 unless other arrangements have been made in writing and filed with the Department Administrator.

### **SAFEWALK: PROMOTING CAMPUS SAFETY AND AWARENESS**

Twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff, and campus visitors. Safewalks are done in male/female pairs. The volunteers walk anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). To request a Safewalk volunteer to walk with you, call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year) or use one of the Help Phones located across campus (they are not just for emergencies).

### **Course Schedule:**

(I reserve the right to make changes to the schedule as appropriate.)

#### **WEEK 1**

##### **R Jan. 13**

Equality and Equality for Animals (based on Singer, "Equality for Animals?")

HW: Singer, "What's Wrong with Killing" and "Taking Life: Animals"

#### **WEEK 2**

##### **R Jan. 20**

Taking Life: Animals

HW: Regan, "Animal Awareness"

#### **WEEK 3**

##### **R Jan. 27**

Animal Awareness

HW: Regan, "Ethical Thinking and Theory"

#### **WEEK 4**

##### **R Feb. 3**

Ethical Thinking and Theory

HW: Regan, "Indirect Duty Views"

#### **WEEK 5**

##### **R Feb. 10**

Jay Garfield, "**What it is like to be a *Bodhisattva*?: Moral Phenomenology in Śāntideva's *Bodhicāryāvātāra*"** - Philosophy Department Colloquium 4:00 Philosophy Department

#### **WEEK 6**

##### **R Feb. 17**

Indirect Duty Views

HW: Regan, "Direct Duty Views"

## **WEEK 7**

**T Feb. 22 and R Feb. 24**  
**No Classes – Reading Week**

## **WEEK 8**

**R Mar. 3**  
Direct Duty Views  
HW: Regan, “Justice and Equality”

## **WEEK 9**

**R Mar. 10**  
Justice and Equality  
HW: Regan, “The Rights View”

## **WEEK 10**

**R Mar. 17**  
The Rights View  
HW: Regan, “Implications of the Rights View,” Wright, “Teleological Explanations”  
(excerpts) and Varner, “Biological Functions and Biological Interests”

## **Week 11**

**R Mar. 24**  
Biological Functions and Interests – Etiological Accounts  
HW: Delancey, “Teleofunctions and Oncomice: The Case for Revisiting Varner’s Value  
Theory,” and Nagel, “Teleology Revisited”

## **WEEK 12**

**R Mar. 31**  
Biological Functions and Interests – Systems-Based Accounts  
HW: Franklin, “Regan on the Lifeboat Problem: A Defense,” and Catch-Up on all reading

## **Week 13**

**R Apr. 7**  
Catch-Up on all reading thus far  
The Lifeboat Case Revisited  
HW: Prepare Abstracts for April 14

## **Week 14**

**R Apr 14**  
In-Class Presentation of Papers

**Final Papers Due Monday, April 17, 4 p.m. in PHIL Department drop box labeled ‘Framarin  
PHIL 547/649’.**