



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

**PHIL 649 Lec 01 – “Topics in Ethics”**  
***Topic #5: Reasons, Responsibility, and Obligation***

**Fall Term 2012**

**Course Outline**

**Lectures: Monday, Wednesday 4:30 – 5:45, ST 055**

**Instructor:** Ish Haji

**Office:** SS 1248A

**Phone:** 403-220-3165

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

**Office Hours :** MW 3:30 – 4:30

***Course Description***

The central aim of this course is to examine whether practical reason presupposes our having free will, and if so, whether determinism is indeed compatible with the truth of judgments concerning responsibility, obligation, and virtue.

***Required Texts***

Students will be supplied with a list of papers. Each of these papers is available online in journals or presses to which our University Library subscribes.

***Evaluation***

There will be three 12-page papers, each weighted equally. Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in evaluation. Writing should be clear, coherent, and to the point. The student’s overall grade for the course will be determined entirely by the student’s performance on the papers. There will be no Registrar-scheduled final examination. There will be *no* provisions for “extra-credit.” There is no particular component of the course in which a pass is essential if the student is to pass the course as a whole.

Tentative Assignment Dates:

Paper 1	Weds Oct. 10
Paper 2	Weds Nov. 7
Paper 3	Weds Dec. 5

***Grading Method***

Each paper will be assigned a letter grade. The student’s overall grade for the course will be an average of the student’s letter grades on the student’s papers. Letter grades will be averaged by using GPA numerical equivalents as outlined in the University Calendar.

***Policy on Late Assignments***

No late papers will be accepted without a formal “Deferral of Term Work” having been granted by the University.

### **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.

### **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: 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).