



COURSE OUTLINE : PHILO 116

D Credit – Degree Applicable

COURSE ID 004127

Cyclical Review: October 2018

Revision: September 2021

COURSE DISCIPLINE : PHILO

COURSE NUMBER : 116

COURSE TITLE (FULL) : Ethics for Modern Life

COURSE TITLE (SHORT) : Ethics for Modern Life

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM C-ID : PHIL 120 – Introduction to Ethics

ACADEMIC SENATE DISCIPLINE: Philosophy

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

PHILO 116 is an analysis of the concept of the good, the scope of morality, the deterministic controversy, the ethical yardsticks, and the major ethical systems and their roots. Attention is given to contemporary positivism, John Dewey, Marxist ethics, authority as an ethical principle, intuitionism, egoistic hedonism, utilitarianism, ethical idealism, Immanuel Kant, modern Aristotelianism, existentialism, and recent ethical theories. The nature and scope of contemporary moral problems are also examined.

Total Lecture Units:3.00

Total Laboratory Units: 0.00

Total Course Units: 3.00

Total Lecture Hours:54.00

Total Laboratory Hours: 0.00

Total Laboratory Hours To Be Arranged: 0.00

Total Contact Hours: 54.00

Total Out-of-Class Hours: 108.00

Recommended Preparation: ENGL 100 or ESL 151.



ENTRY STANDARDS

	Subject	Number	Title	Description	Include
1	ESL	151	Reading And Composition V	read and critically analyze various academic readings;	Yes
2	ESL	151	Reading And Composition V	summarize readings;	Yes
3	ESL	151	Reading And Composition V	organize fully-developed essays in both expository and argumentative modes;	Yes
4	ESL	151	Reading And Composition V	compose a 500 to 550-word essay which: summarizes and cites appropriately a reading passage; includes a clear thesis statement; uses evidence to support the thesis; shows clear organization into an introduction, body, and conclusion;	Yes
5	ESL	151	Reading And Composition V	revise writing to eliminate errors in syntax, and grammatical constructions;	Yes
6	ESL	151	Reading And Composition V	employ basic library research techniques;	Yes
7	ESL	151	Reading And Composition V	compose one research paper (1,000 words) or two short research papers (500-700words each) with citations.	Yes
8	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	Read, analyze, and evaluate contemporary articles and stories to identify topic, thesis, support, transitions, conclusion, audience, and tone;	Yes
9	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	read, analyze, and evaluate contemporary articles and stories for the comprehension of difficult content and the identification of main ideas and (topic-based) evidence;	Yes
10	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	read, analyze, and evaluate student compositions for unity, development, use of evidence, interpretation, coherence, and variety of sentence form;	Yes
11	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write a summary of a contemporary article or story with correct citation techniques;	Yes
12	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that has an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion, demonstrating a basic understanding of essay organization;	Yes
13	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that addresses the topic, is directed by a thesis statement, uses appropriate textual evidence, develops logical interpretations, and concludes with some compelling observations;	Yes
14	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that integrates the ideas of others (i.e., authors) through paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting with correct citation techniques;	Yes



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15	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that generates novel ideas (those that add to the conversation rather than repeating the author's ideas) related to the topic and the readings;	Yes
16	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write compositions (e.g., summaries and argumentative essays) that are easy to read and follow, though some errors in grammar, mechanics, spelling, or diction may exist;	Yes
17	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	proofread and edit essays for content, language, citation, and formatting problems.	Yes

EXIT STANDARDS

- 1 Discuss problems relating to the scope of morality, limited morality, freedom, and moral principles;
- 2 assess the classical viewpoints of hedonism and utilitarianism, idealism, Aristotle, and Immanuel Kant;
- 3 demonstrate a knowledge of the contemporary ethical theories of positivism, John Dewey, Marxism, and intuitionism;
- 4 discuss existentialism, recent ethical theories, and contemporary moral issues.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1 identify and explain the historical development of the predominant concepts and theories of ethics in classical and contemporary western philosophy;
- 2 critically evaluate the moral reasonings of various ethical standpoints;
- 3 apply ethical theories to contemporary moral issues, such as abortion, euthanasia, cloning, terrorism, animal rights and environmental ethics;
- 4 demonstrate the ability to compose ethical and analytical responses in writing to the philosophical issues related to contemporary moral debates.

COURSE CONTENT WITH INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS

	Description	Lecture	Lab	Total Hours
1	The Problem of Ethics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moral principles • Moral obligation • Freedom • Casuistry • Conduct 	2	0	2



2	<p>The Problem of the Scope of Morality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The concept of value • Ethics and morals • Conditions of morality • Morality as a human phenomenon • Morality as part of life • Morality as universal or relative 	2	0	2
3	<p>Limited Morality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linguistic confusions in defining morality • Private and public morality • Moral provincialism • Morality and social policy 	2	0	2
4	<p>The Problem of Freedom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom of action and freedom of decision • The dilemma of moral responsibility • Determinism • Libertarianism • Psychological egoism 	4	0	4
5	<p>The Problem of Moral Principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of justification • Casual or conditioning factors • Authoritative agencies • Future satisfaction • Development criterion • Rationality of decision • Oneself as criterion 	2	0	2
6	<p>The Types of Ethical Theory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of terms • Caution about isms 	1	0	1



7	<p>The Ethics of Contemporary Positivism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The principle of verifiability • The rejection of traditional ethics • Emotive theories of moral behavior • Valuations as expressions of attitudes • Beyond positivism: the “good reasons” approach 	3	0	3
8	<p>The Ethics of John Dewey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical and moral problems • Problems of means and ends • Relation of the self to nature • Relation of habit to impulse • Reflective choice as moral goodness 	3	0	3
9	<p>Marxist Ethics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The background of Marxist economics • The inevitability of the class struggle • The collective good vs. freedom from the state 	3	0	3
10	<p>Authority as an Ethical Principle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ethics of custom • Supernatural authoritarianism 	3	0	3
11	<p>Intuitionism in Ethics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The uniqueness of the phenomena of morality • The independence of morality from sense data • Attitudes toward ethical relativity • Attitudes toward the freedom of the will • Axiological intuitionism • Deontology 	3	0	3

12	<p>Egoistic Hedonism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cyrenaic ideal • The Epicurean ideal • Altruism as a source of personal satisfaction • Science as an ally of hedonism • The good as a democracy of pleasures 	3	0	3
13	<p>Utilitarianism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The satisfaction principle • The utilitarian formula • The hedonic calculus • The doctrine of sanctions • Higher and lower pleasures • External and internal sanctions • The principle of fairness 	4	0	4
14	<p>Ethical Idealism Background: The Ethics of Plato</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spiritual progress • Unity of self • Unity of society • Objectivity of value • Conservatism 	4	0	4
15	<p>The Ethics of Immanuel Kant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The formula of universal law • The formula of the law of nature • The formula of the end in itself • The formula of autonomy • The formula of the kingdom of ends 	4	0	4



16	<p>The Ethics of Modern Aristotalianism’s Background: The Ethics of Aristotle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existence of God • The purposive order of nature • The rational character of people • Obedience to the natural law • Obedience to the civil law • Good actions, circumstances, and intentions • Cardinal virtues 	4	0	4
17	<p>The Ethics of Existentialism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The subjectivity of our inner life • The freedom to create oneself • Existing authentically and unauthentically • Existence and essence • Death as the limit of human existence • The choice of freedom for all persons • Secular and religious existentialism 	3	0	3
18	<p>Recent Ethical Theories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United States • Europe • Situation ethics • French Nietzscheism 	3	0	3
19	<p>Contemporary Moral Problems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their nature • Their scope 	1	0	1
				54

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

- 1 essays (e.g., an essay discussing the impact of Judeo-Christian tradition on the western culture, its attitude towards animal rights and environment);
- 2 group project (e.g., an exploration of arguments for and against human cloning).



METHODS OF EVALUATION

- 1 group discussions;
- 2 class participation demonstrating course exist standards;
- 3 two to three one-hour class examinations;
- 4 final examination.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- Lecture
- Laboratory
- Studio
- Discussion
- Multimedia
- Tutorial
- Independent Study
- Collaboratory Learning
- Demonstration
- Field Activities (Trips)
- Guest Speakers
- Presentations

TEXTBOOKS

Title	Type	Publisher	Edition	Medium	Author	ISBN	Date
Applying Ethics	Required	Cengage Learning	11	print	Barry, Vincent	978-1-285-19677-0	2015
Contemporary Moral Issues: Diversity and Consensus	Supplemental	Routledge	5	print	Hinman, Lawrence M.	9781138243026	2017

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