

Course Outline for: PHIL 1103 Ethics**A. Course Description:**

1. Number of credits: 3
2. Lecture hours per week: 3
3. Prerequisites: None
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: Goal 6 Humanities and Fine Arts
 Goal 9 Ethical and Civic Responsibility

This course is an introduction to the philosophical study of morality. It will examine several important ethical theories and perspectives concerning standards of value, the nature of right action and decision-making standards, virtue and vice, and conceptions of the good life. Contemporary moral issues will be critically examined in light of these theories and perspectives; such as LGBTQ+ rights, freedom of speech and civil liberties, criminal justice and punishment, racism and social justice, abortion, climate change, animal rights, globalization and global justice, among other issues. This course will help students to think analytically about the moral judgments we are tempted to make, with the goal of developing well-reasoned positions on important moral issues of personal and/or social concern.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: March 2023**C. Outline of Major Content Areas:**

1. Ethical theory (may include utilitarianism, deontologicalism, virtue ethics, ethics of care, and other theories/approaches to morality)
2. Application of moral theory to issues of contemporary concern
3. Metaethics (may include moral relativism and cross cultural moral understanding, issues in moral epistemology, moral nihilism and amoralism)

D. Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Articulate and critically evaluate one's own moral views on a variety of moral issues. (Goals 2a, 9a)
2. Understand and apply core concepts in moral philosophy to specific issues. (Goals 2c, 9b)
3. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues. (Goals 2d, 9c)
4. Identify ways to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in light of the understanding developed of various ethical theories. (Goals 2b, 9e)
5. Use diverse ethical theories and positions to imaginatively understand and generate alternative moral reasoning of others. (Goals 2b, 9d)

6. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the history of moral philosophy and thought. (Goal 6a)
7. Understand ethical works as representations of various historical and social values. (Goal 6b)
8. Articulate informed personal responses to classical and modern philosophical works. (Goal 6e)
9. Critically analyze and evaluate moral arguments. (Goal 6c)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:

Assessments may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Essays and papers
2. Exams and Quizzes
3. Homework Assignments
4. Discussion Projects
5. In-class assignments and participation
6. Service Learning

F. Special Information:

None