PHIL-2020: ETHICS

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: PHIL-2020 : Ethics

Board of Trustees:
June 2020

Academic Term:
Fall 2021

Subject Code
PHIL - Philosophy

Course Number:
2020

Title:
Ethics

Catalog Description:
Study of systems and problems of human conduct with applications to moral problems and decisions. Prepares students with work in philosophy, applied ethics, and any area of learning requiring reasoned views.

Credit Hour(s):
3

Lecture Hour(s):
3

Lab Hour(s):
0

Other Hour(s):
0

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite
ENG-1010 College Composition I, or ENG-101H College Composition I.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):
Interpret and analyze various ethical theories.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:
Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.
Written Communication: Demonstrate effective written communication for an intended audience that follows genre/disciplinary conventions that reflect clarity, organization, and editing skills.

Objective(s):
1. Apply aspects of theories and topics to practical problems and successfully argue for a position.
2. Contrast the deontological and teleological types of justification.
3. Give an account of a teleological theory such as Mill's or Aristotle's.
4. Give an account of a deontological theory such as Kant's.
5. Develop the rationale for an intuitionistic metaethics such as Moore's.
6. Develop the rationale for a non-cognitivist metaethics such as Ayer's.
7. Explain Sartre's version of existentialism.

Course Outcome(s):
Interpret and assess the historical development of ethical theory.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:
Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.
Cultural Sensitivity: Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

Objective(s):
1. Explain the concept of ethics and the goals of descriptive, normative, and metaethics.
2. Account for the rise of existentialist theory in this century.

Course Outcome(s):
Differentiate between ethics and other fields of philosophic inquiry such as metaphysics as well as other general fields of general inquiry such as psychology.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:
Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.
Civic Responsibility: Analyze the results of actions and inactions with the likely effects on the larger local and/or global communities.

Objective(s):
1. Examine the differences between ethics and other fields such as psychology and sociology.
2. Distinguish scientific studies that are primarily descriptive from prescriptive analyses that are commonly associated with ethical analyses.
3. Differentiate ethical theories that contain meta-ethical elements from those that are not meta-ethical in character.

Methods of Evaluation:
The Philosophy counterparts have agreed that at least 25% of the grade for PHIL 2020 - Ethics, requires written assignments or evaluations.
A. Essay exams
B. Interpretive Essays
C. Research oriented assignments
D. Applied Ethics analyses
E. Oral presentations
F. Quizzes/Objective Exams and/or objective exam questions
G. Class participation

Course Content Outline:
1. Subject matter of ethics
    a. Definition of "ethics" (morality)
    b. descriptive ethics and social science
    c. normative ethics:
        i. Deontological theories
        ii. Teleological theories
        iii. Virtue
        iv. Feminism/care
        v. Principles
        vi. Metaethics
2. Socrates/Plato
    a. Knowledge and Virtue
    b. Development of the soul
3. Aristotle"s ethical theory
    a. The good for humans
    b. Virtues of character
        i. doctrine of the mean
        ii. theory of emotions

     c. Intellectual virtues
       i. practical wisdom
       ii. the good life
       iii. Hume
         1. Sentiment and Utility

4. Kant"s ethical theory
   a. Good will and the ends of action
   b. Motivation by duty or by inclination
   c. The categorical imperative
      i. universal law formulation
      ii. the universalization criterion
   d. The categorical imperative: end-in-itself formulation
      i. being treated not merely as a means to ends
      ii. contrast between things and persons
   e. Criticism of Kant"s theory

5. Utilitarianism
   a. Bentham"s and Mill"s version of the greatest happiness principle
   b. Mill"s attempted proof of the utility principle
   c. Problems with utilitarianism
   d. Bernard Williams" criticism of utilitarianism
   e. Peter Singer and preference utilitarianism

6. W. D. Ross
   a. The role of intuition
   b. Prima facie duties
   c. Prima facie versus actual duties

7. G. E. Moore"s intuitionistic metaethics
   a. The naturalistic fallacy
   b. The indefinability of good
   c. Good and other normative values
   d. Problems with Moore"s arguments

8. Existentialism
   a. Essence and existence
   b. Theistic and atheistic themes
   c. Freedom, choice, and values

9. Feminist ethics
   a. Emphasis on gender equality
   b. Care Ethics

.

Resources

Denise, Theodore C., Nicholas White, Sheldon P. Peterfreund. *Great Traditions in Ethics*. 12th ed. Wadsworth, 2007.

Becker, Lawrence, and Charlotte Becker, eds. *Encyclopedia of Ethics*. 2nd. Routledge, 2001.

Bentham, Jeremy. *The Principles of Morals and Legislation*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017.

Dewey, John. *Human Nature and Conduct*. Dover Publications, 2011.

Edwards, Paul, ed. *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. MacMillan 8 vols, 1972.

Mill, John Stuart. *Utilitarianism*. Hackett Publishing Company, Inc., 2002.

Moore, G. E. *Principia Ethica*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2016.

Sartre, John Paul. *Existentialism is a Humanism*. Yale University Press, 2007.

Smart, J. J. C., and Bernard Williams. *Utilitarianism For and Against.* Cambridge University Press, 1973.

Aquinas, Thomas. *Summa Theologiae.* The Aquinas Institute, 2012.

Aristotle (Translated by Susan D. Collins). *Nichomachean Ethics.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011.

Gilligan, Carol. *In a Different Voice.* Harvard University Press, 2016.

Hume, David. *An Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014.

Kant, Immanuel (Trans. Thomas Kingsmill). *Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals.* Digireads.com Publishing, 2017.

Kierkegaard, Soren (Trans. H. Hong and E. Hong). *Either Or.* Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1987.

Kierkegaard, Soren (Trans. H. Hong). *Fear and Trembling*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.

Maimonides (Ed. by R.L. Weiss). *Ethical Writings of Maimonides.* New York: Dover Publishing, 1983.

Plato (Translated by C.D.C. Reeve). *The Repubic*. Hackett Publishing Company, 2004.

Singer, Peter. *Animal Liberation.* New York: Harper Collins, 2009.

Boss, Judith. *Analyzing Moral Issues*. 7th. McGraw Hill Higher Education, 2020.

Johnson, Oliver A. and Andrews Reath. *Ethics: Selections from Classic and Contemporary Writers*. 11th. Cengage Learning, 2012.

Ruggiero, Vincent . *Thinking critically about ethical issues*. 9th. McGraw-Hill Education, 2014.

Smith, Owen and Anne Smith, Editors. *Taking sides: Clashing Views on Moral Issues* . McGraw-Hill Education, 2015.

Rachels, James. *Elements of Moral Philosophy* . 9th. McGraw-Hill Education,

Cahn, Steven M. and Peter Markie. *Ethics: History, Theory, and Contemporary Issues*. 6th.

Thiroux, Jacques P. and Keith W. Krasemann. *Ethics Theory and Practice* . 11th. Pearson, 2014.

Vaughn, Lewis. *Doing Ethics*. 5th. W. W. Norton & Company, 2019.

Resources Other
A. Guide to Philosophy on the Internet: http://www.earlham.edu/~~peters/philinks.htm
B. The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy: http//:www.iep.utm.edu/1/iep-standards.htm
C. The Stanford Encylopedia of Philosophy: http://www.plato.stanford.edu
D. Ethics Resources, A Guide to Using the World Wide Web in Ethics Teaching and Research: http://ethics.acusd.edu/resources.html
E. The American Philosophical Association: http://www.apa.udel.edu/apa/index.html
F. Philosophy in Cyberspace: http://www-personal.monash.edu.au/~dey/phil/
G. The Journal of Ethics: https://link.springer.com/journal/10892

H. The Journal of Moral Philosophy: https://brill.com/view/journals/jmp/jmp-overview.xml

I. Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal: https://www.press.jhu.edu/journals/kennedy-institute-ethics-journal

J. Teaching Ethics: https://www.pdcnet.org/tej

Instructional Services

OAN Number:

Ohio Transfer 36 TMAH and Transfer Assurance Guide OAH046

Top of page
Key: 3570