UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy 451 Lec 01 – "Contemporary Ethical Theories"

Winter Term 2016
Course Outline

Lectures: TuTh 12:30 – 1:45, KNB 133

Instructor: Ish Haji
Office: SS 1232
Phone: 403-220-3165
Email: ihaji@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: TuTh 10:50 - 11:50

Course Description

In this course, we shall undertake a detailed investigation of some central normative ethical theories, such as utilitarianism and Kantianism. Various accounts of goodness, for example, hedonism and preferentism, will be discussed as well. Time permitting, we will examine topics concerning free will and responsibility.

Required Texts

Students will be supplied with a list of papers or book chapters. Each of these is available online in journals or in other venues to which our University Library subscribes. Links to the papers or chapters will be posted on D2L.

Evaluation

(1) One in-class exam worth 30% of the final grade. Two (4-5 page) papers each worth 35% of the final grade. Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in evaluation. Writing should be clear, coherent, and to the point.

(2) Two Rough Drafts: For each paper you will write a (1-2 page) draft. At least one of your classmates and I will review this draft. Some of you may have your drafts workshopped by the class as a whole. These drafts are not graded, although a missing draft will reduce the grade of your final corresponding paper. (See the policy on late assignments below.)

Tentative Assignment Dates:

In-Class Exam: Thursday, February 11
First draft paper: Thursday, March 3
First final paper: Thursday, March 10
Second draft paper: Tuesday, April 5
Second final paper: Tuesday April 12

(3) Class Participation: You are expected to be an active participant in class discussions. Read the course material and have questions and comments ready.

(4) There will be no Registrar-scheduled final exam.

(5) There will be no provisions for "extra-credit." A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a pass in the course as a whole.

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 the following conversion scheme.

Conversion of Number Grades into Percentage Grades:
A+ = 99-100; A = 98-92; A- = 91-89; B+ = 88-86; B = 85-82; B- = 81-77; C+ = 76-73; C = 72-68; C- = 67-63; D+= 62-58; D = 57-50; F = 49-0.

Policy on Late Assignments

No unexcused late final essays or drafts will be accepted without official and adequate documentation. Missing final essays will receive an "F" (a numerical score of zero). Each missing essay draft will reduce the grade of the final corresponding essay by two whole letter grades.

Academic Honesty
Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic office, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation
Student's seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For more information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/ . Students who require accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on student accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf

D2L Help
Desire2Learn is the University of Calgary's online learning management system. Go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/services/d2l for help.

Student Advising and Information Resources

- General Academic Concerns and Program Planning– Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS102, call 403-220-3580, or email ascarts@ucalgary.ca . Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate for detailed information on common academic concerns.
- **Advice on Philosophy Courses** - You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy's website http://phil.ucalgary.ca or contact one of Philosophy's current Undergraduate Advisors (see below)
- **Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers** – If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the instructor of the course.

Protection of Privacy
The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. 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 or teaching assistant.

Safewalk
Call 403-220-5333 (24/7/365) for a Safewalk volunteer to accompany you safely to your destination on campus including parking lots, housing, and the LRT station or use a Campus Help Phone.

PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT
The Department of Philosophy is located on the 12th floor of the Social Sciences Building
and on the web at www.phil.ucalgary.ca

PHILOSOPHY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS FOR WINTER 2016:
Jeremy Fantl (Undergrad Director) jfantl@ucalgary.ca
Chris Framarin chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca
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For assistance with registration issues in Philosophy courses, contact
Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca)