



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 249 Lec 01 “Morality Virtue and Society” Fall Term 2018

Course Outline

Lectures: TR 12:30 – 13:45 MFH 164

Instructor: Ish Haji
Office: SS1232
Office Phone: 403-220-3165
Email: ihaji@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: TR 1:05 – 12:05

TA: Joseph McDonald
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Office Hours: T 2:00 – 3:00; W 2:00 – 3:00

Course Description

This course is an introduction to moral philosophy. There are different sorts of moral appraisal. Some concern the evaluation of actions; for example, what makes right acts right? Others concern the evaluation of character. When is a person virtuous? Yet others concern the evaluation of persons. Under what conditions, for instance, is a person blameworthy for something? Still others concern the assessment of lives. When is a life good in itself for a person? We will examine moral theories of each of these types of appraisal.

Prerequisites

N/A

Course Learning Outcomes

Students should be able to:

1. Distinguish among different sorts of moral appraisal including appraisals of right and wrong, good and evil, virtue and vice, and moral responsibility.
2. Explain key ethical concepts, such as being obligatory, being intrinsically good, and being morally responsible.
3. Read and comprehend philosophical texts in ethics.
4. Critically analyze ethical issues to be discussed.
5. Write a convincing argument for or against fundamental ethical issues, such as whether pleasure is the sole intrinsic good or whether responsibility requires freedom to do otherwise, to be discussed.
6. Engage in constructive oral argumentation regarding relevant concepts, principles, or theories introduced in the course.

Required Texts (including electronic resources)

- (1) Handout posted on D2L.
- (2) Online readings posted on D2L.

Course Assessment

There will be four in-class quizzes, the first two each worth 25% of the total grade, and the last two each worth 10% of the total grade. In addition, there will be one paper, to be submitted in class, worth 30% of the total grade. Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in evaluation. Writing should be clear, coherent, and to the point.

UCalgary Calendar: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

There will be *no* provisions for “extra-credit.” There will be *no* borderline adjustments to your final mean score for the course. For example, if your overall score (89%) is 1% short of an A (90%), your overall grade will *not* be changed from an A- to an A. A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a pass in the course as a whole. You may use a computer to access handouts or readings for the course and to take notes.

Tentative Assignment Dates:

Quiz 1	(in class, closed-book)	Thursday September 27
Paper 1	(to be submitted in class)	Thursday, October 18
Quiz 2	(in class, closed-book)	Thursday, November 1
Quiz 3	(in class, closed-book)	Thursday, November 22
Quiz 4	(in class, closed-book)	Thursday, December 6

Conversion of Number Grades into Letter Grades:

A+ = 100-96; A = 95-90; A- = 89-85; B+ = 84-80; B = 79-75; B- = 74-71; C+ = 70-67; C = 66-62; C- = 61-59; D+ = 58-54; D = 53-50; F = 49-0.

Late Assignments:

No late papers will be accepted and you will not be able to take a quiz at any time other than the time at which it is scheduled without official and adequate documentation.

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which will be an F on the assignment or an F in the course, and possibly a disciplinary sanction such as probation, suspension, or expulsion. See the relevant section K.5 on ‘Academic Misconduct’ in the current University Calendar <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>.

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

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is UCalgary's online learning management system. Important information and communications about this course may be posted on D2L. Go to <https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it> for help.

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/advising> 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 Undergraduate Advisors. David Dick (dgdick@ucalgary.ca), Jack MacIntosh (macintos@ucalgary.ca), Megan Delehanty (mdelehan@ucalgary.ca).

Registration Overload/Prerequisite Waivers

If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prerequisites for a course, email the Department Manager, Tram Nguyen (tram.nguyen1@ucalgary.ca). Include the specific course information and your UCID number in your request.

Writing

This course will include written assignments. All written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

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.

Internet and Electronic Communication Devices

The instructor reserves the right to establish course policies regarding the use of devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartbooks. If allowed, these devices must be used exclusively for instructional purposes and must not cause disruption to the instructor or to fellow students. Cell phones and paging devices should be set to silent mode during lectures. Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy

Emergency Evacuation:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints> . Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Other Helpful Contacts

- Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.
- Faculty of Arts Student Representatives: 403-220-6552, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca , arts2@su.ucalgary.ca , arts3@su.ucalgary.ca , arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
- Student Union: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>; 403-220-6551.
- Student Ombudsman: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>
- Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>