

University of Calgary
Department of Philosophy
Philosophy 249 Lec 01
Ethics
ST 139 MWF 13:00

Instructor: Dr. Ann Levey
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TA: Gillman Payette
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This is an introductory survey course in ethical theory. Through readings in both literature and philosophy we will look at issues such as the nature and status of morality, the meaning of life, moral character, and the rationality of morality as well as examine the central moral theories in the western tradition, utilitarianism, deontology and virtue ethics. If time permits we may take up some questions in applied ethics in areas such as the environment, global justice and treatment of animals.

Text: *The Moral Life: An Introductory Reader in Ethics and Literature* 3rd Edition. Pojman and Vaughn eds. Oxford University Press, 2007

Requirements

Midterm	15%	Monday March 9 th
Paper	25%	Draft 1 due April 3 rd . Draft 2 due April 17 th
Final exam	30%	To be scheduled by the Registrar
Informal writing	15%	To be assigned in class as appropriate
Tutorial grade	15%	

Both the midterm and the final will be composed largely of essay style questions taken from a set of questions that will be posted on Blackboard at least one week in advance of the test.

The paper will be approximately 1700 words (5 pages). More detail will be given about the paper requirements later in the semester.

The informal writing grade will be based on completing short writing assignments (paragraph length) to be done in and out of class as part of classroom participation. The grade will be assigned on the basis of the percentage of the total number completed. The instructor reserves the right to reject assignments that are unacceptable.

The tutorial grade will be based on participation, including attendance, and any short writing assignments given by the TA as part of the tutorial requirements.

Grading Scale

A+	98-100	C+	70-74
A	94-97	C	65-69
A-	90-93	C-	60-64
B+	85-89	D+	55-59
B	80-84	D	50-54
B-	75-79	F	below 50

Late Policy

Missed midterms and late papers require students to present an adequate reason, documented where possible. Late papers without such a reason will be assessed a penalty of 5 % per day. No informal writing will be accepted late. Students who have to miss a significant number of classes or tutorials for documented reasons of illness or family may where suitable arrange to have alternative assignments.

INTELLECTUAL HONESTY

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that plagiarism exists when:

- *the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);*
- *parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;*
- *the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source; and/or*
- *a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.*

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVE

The Humanities Representative is Daniel Pagan, MSC 251, humanitiesrep@su.ucalgary.ca or 220-3913.