



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
Department of Philosophy

**PHIL 325 Lec 01**

**Law and Morality**

Summer 2022

Monday/Wednesday, 9-11:45am, MS 319

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Instructor Name:** Dr. Jennifer Warriner

**Email:** [jennifer.warriner@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jennifer.warriner@ucalgary.ca) (You can expect a response from me in 24-48 hours.)

**Office:** TBA

**Office Hours:** By appointment only. Send me an email and we will set something up.

**Office Phone:** 403-220-5886 (This is the philosophy office number.)

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Paternalism occurs when a person or a government prevents someone from acting autonomously, without his or her consent, on the grounds that doing so is in that person's best interest. For example, laws requiring motorists to wear seatbelts and for drivers to refrain from texting while driving are said to be paternalistic laws. Yet, such laws seem to be justifiable restrictions people's autonomy for their own good. In this class, we will consider whether people have an obligation to obey laws in the first place. Then, we consider the concept of paternalism and in what sense a law can be paternalistic. We will consider several different kinds of so-called paternalistic laws – e.g., related to public health measures, sex work, and drug laws, among others – and attempt to understand what, if anything, is particularly objectionable about these laws. Can the law justifiably interfere with someone's autonomy? If so, on what grounds?

**PREREQUISITE(S)**

None

**COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify key ethical concepts, e.g., paternalism, autonomy, etc.
- Comprehend the complexity of ethical reasoning about paternalism.
- Critically digest, interpret, and analyze philosophical arguments.
- Write a convincing argument that takes adequate account of alternative positions.
- Engage in constructive, respectful, oral and written argumentation.

**REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS, READINGS AND MATERIALS**

All readings will be posted on D2L. There is no textbook.

**COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION**

Two in-class exams, the first worth 25%, the second worth 30%:

- First exam is scheduled for Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>
- Second exam is scheduled for Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>
- Both exams will be closed book, with short- and longer-answer written response questions.

One take-home final exam, worth 35%:

- The final exam will be cumulative. It will be an open book, take-home exam.
- Because this is a take-home exam, the quality of the writing will factor into the overall grade.
- The exam will be posted on D2L on Monday August 15<sup>th</sup> and will be due by Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Participation, worth 10%

- Participation involves active, informed, and consistent contributions to class discussion over the course of the semester. Please note that “class discussion” includes asking questions or making a critical point during lecture; posting a discussion question on the D2L discussion board; sending me an email with a question or critical point about course content.

There is no registrar-scheduled final exam.

A passing grade on any particular component is not necessary to pass the course as a whole.

### **IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION**

It is the student’s responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. The student accommodation policy can be found at [ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf](https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf).

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: [ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf](https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf). Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

### **Absence or Missed Course Assessments**

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

### **Student Support and Resources**

Full details and information about the following resources can be found at [ucalgary.ca/current-students/student-services](https://ucalgary.ca/current-students/student-services)

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students’ Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

### **Academic Advising**

If you are a student in the Faculty of Arts, you can speak to an academic advisor in the Arts Students’ Centre about course planning, course selection, registration, program progression and more. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising> for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/philosophy](https://arts.ucalgary.ca/philosophy). Further academic guidance is available by contacting Jeremy Fantl (Undergraduate Program Director [jfantl@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jfantl@ucalgary.ca)) or David Dick (Honours Advisor [dgdick@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dgdick@ucalgary.ca)).

### **Writing Assessment and Support**

The assessment of all written assignments—and, to a lesser extent, written exam responses—is based in part on writing skills. This includes correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.), as well as general clarity and organization. Research papers must include a thorough and accurate citation of sources. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services for assistance. For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit [ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success](https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success).

### **Required Technology**

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote, and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

### **Responsible Use of D2L**

Important information and communication about this course will be posted on D2L (Desire2Learn), UCalgary's online learning management system. Visit <https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it> for how-to information and technical assistance.

All users of D2L are bound by the guidelines on the responsible use of D2L posted here: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/commitment-to-the-responsible-use-of-d2l/>. The instructor may establish additional specific course policies for D2L, Zoom, and any other technologies used to support remote learning. Instructional materials, including audio or video recordings of lectures, may not be posted outside of the course D2L site. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the [University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy](#).

### **Media Recording**

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: [https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP\\_FINAL.pdf](https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf)

### **Academic Misconduct/Honesty**

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is 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. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at [ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html](https://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.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 referencing, please consult your instructor.

### **University Policies**

The Instructor Intellectual Property Policy is available at [ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Intellectual-Property-Policy.pdf](https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Intellectual-Property-Policy.pdf)

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>. The instructor (or TA) must return graded assignments *directly* to the student UNLESS written permission to do otherwise has been provided.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>).