



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 345 Lec 01 – “Issues in Environmental Ethics”
Fall Term 2011

Course Outline

Instructor: Greg Janzen
Office: SS1220
Office Hour: M 14:00-15:00

Email: gajanzen@ucalgary.ca
Phone: 220-3163
Lectures: MWF 13:00-13:50 in ST 130

Course Description

This course explores a range of philosophical issues in environmental ethics, such as: Is the environment valuable for its own sake, or only as a means to human well-being? Should we extend the realm of rights to include non-human animals, or even non-sentient organisms such as trees? Does an anthropocentric environmental ethic protect the environment adequately? Are we morally obligated to redistribute resources to help those who are suffering from chronic malnutrition? What, if anything, do we owe future generations? The course has two principal aims: (1) to help students become conversant with some of the classic and contemporary literature in environmental ethics, and (2) to equip students with some techniques for the critical analysis of this literature.

Text

The required text for the course is *Environmental Ethics: What Really Matters, What Really Works*, eds. D. Schmidtz and E. Willott (OUP). Most of the readings for the course can be found in this text. Additional required readings will be made available on Blackboard.

Evaluation

There will be two short essays (3-4 pages, double-spaced, 12 point font) worth 20% each of the final grade, a midterm in-class exam worth 30%, and a Registrar scheduled final exam worth 30%.

To ensure fairness to those who submit their essays on time, late submissions will be penalized three marks for each day they are late, unless some university recognized ground for delay is provided. The time between Friday and Monday counts as one day. *Assignments will not be accepted via email under any circumstances.*

Grading assignments is more of an art than a science, but as a rough guide the essays will be graded according to the following criteria: (1) degree of understanding of the material; (2) quality of philosophical argument; and (3) clarity of expression.

The following conversion table will be used to calculate final letter grades:

< 50% F	60-63 C-	70-74 B-	86-91 A-
50-54 D	64-66 C	75-79 B	92-96 A
55-59 D+	67-69 C+	80-85 B+	97-100 A+

Assignment and Test Schedule

Essay 1	Monday, October 3
Midterm Exam	Wednesday, November 2
Essay 2	Wednesday, December 7
Final Exam	TBA

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 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, 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

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial FOIP Act in all aspects of its operations as a publicly funded institution. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments, papers, and exams be returned to the student directly from the instructor unless other arrangements have been made in writing and approved by the Department Administrator.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING & STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Drop in at SS110, phone 403-220-3580 or email at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at 403-220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.
- Email Contact Addresses for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:
arts1@su.ucalgary.ca arts2@su.ucalgary.ca
arts3@su.ucalgary.ca arts4@su.ucalgary.ca