



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 347 Lec 60 – “Contemporary Moral Problems”
Summer Term 2011
Course Outline

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

Email: gajanzen@ucalgary.ca
Phone: 220-3171
Lectures: TR 11:00-13:45 SB 146

Course Description

This course explores a range of topics of current moral and social significance. We will begin by taking a brief look at ethical theory, which will provide a framework within which to analyze these controversies. Topics to be addressed will include euthanasia, famine relief, abortion, and animal rights. The course has two principal aims: (1) to help students become conversant with some of the contemporary literature on a number of issues in applied ethics, and (2) to equip students with some techniques for the critical analysis of these issues.

Text

The required text for the course is *Analyzing Moral Issues*, 5th Edition, ed. J. A. Boss (McGraw-Hill). 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 one essay (5-6 pages, double-spaced, 12 point font) worth 30% of the final grade, a midterm in-class exam worth 30%, and a take-home final exam worth 40%.

To ensure fairness to those who submit their essays on time, late submissions will be penalized two 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

<u>Assignment/Test</u>	<u>Date Due/Given</u>
Midterm Exam	Thursday, July 21
Essay	Thursday, August 11
Final Exam	Tuesday, August 23

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.

STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVES

The Faculty of Arts Representatives are Laura Golebiowski (arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), Bhuvana Sankaranarayanan (arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), Lara Schmitz (arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), and Vincent St. Pierre (arts4@su.ucalgary.ca) .

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 be returned to the student directly from the instructor unless other arrangements have been made in writing and filed with the Department Administrator.

SAFEWALK: PROMOTING CAMPUS SAFETY AND AWARENESS

Twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff, and campus visitors. Safewalks are done in male/female pairs. The volunteers walk anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). To request a Safewalk volunteer to walk with you, call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year) or use one of the Help Phones located across campus (they are not just for emergencies).