UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 347 Lec 01 – "Contemporary Moral Problems"
Winter Term 2010

Course Outline

Instructor: Chris Framarin
Office: SS 1212
Phone: 220-5532
Email: chris.framarin@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:00-4:00, and by appointment

Course Description:
This course focuses on arguments for a range of positions on contemporary moral issues, such as sexual morality, drug legalization, torture, animals, and the environment.

Required Readings:
Timmons, Mark (ed.). *Disputed Moral Issues: A Reader* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

Evaluation:
Students will write three papers. Grades will be calculated as follows:

Participation:	10%
First Paper:	25%
Second Paper:	30%
Final Writing Assignment:	35%

*There will be no Registrar scheduled final exam in this course.
*Participation is based on contribution to class discussion. If you are unable to contribute to class discussion for any reason, please speak to me about it as soon as possible, and I will make some other means of participating available to you.

A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

A+	100 - 96	A	95 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

Policies:
I expect students to attend every class and arrive on time and prepared. If you miss a class, get notes from another student and see me for additional help if needed. Papers must be submitted on the day they are due. Late papers will lose one point per day.
Academic Honesty:
Students should be familiar with University regulations regarding academic integrity. See relevant pages in the current University Calendar.

Academic Accommodation:
If you are a student with a disability who requires academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, contact their office at 403-220-8237. Once registered, discuss arrangements for exams as soon as possible, well before the exam dates.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week One
Tuesday, Jan. 11
Introduction to Arguments
HW: "Sexual Morality (Introduction)" (Timmons 36-40) and Mappes, "A Liberal View of Sexual Morality and the Concept of Using Another Person" (Timmons 46-56)

Thursday, Jan. 13
Mappes
HW: "Vatican Declarations on Some Questions of Sexual Ethics" (Timmons 41-46) and Halwani, "Virtue Ethics and Adultery" (Timmons 56-62)

Week Two
Tuesday, Jan. 18
Vatican and Halwani
HW: Wilson, "Against Homosexual Marriage" (Timmons 63-67)

Thursday, Jan. 20
Wilson
HW: Corvino, "Why Shouldn't Tommy and Jim Have Sex? A Defense of Homosexuality" (Timmons 68-73)

Week Three
Tuesday, Jan. 25
Corvino
HW: Shrage, "Should Feminists Oppose Prostitution?" (Timmons 74-82)

Thursday, Jan. 27
Shrage
First Paper Assignment Handout
HW: "Animals (Introduction)" (Timmons 474-477) and Singer, "All Animals are Equal" (Timmons 477-485)

Week Four
Tuesday, Feb. 2
Singer
HW: Cohen, "In Defense of Speciesism" (Timmons 485-488)

Thursday, Feb. 4
Cohen
HW: Regan, "The Case for Animal Rights" (Timmons 489-492)

Week Five
Tuesday, Feb. 9
First Paper Assignment Due in Class
Regan
HW: Warren, "Human and Animal Rights Compared" (Timmons 493-498)

Thursday, Feb. 11
Warren
HW: Curnutt, “A New Argument for Vegetarianism” (Timmons 498-508)

Week Six
Tuesday, Feb. 16 and Thursday, Feb. 18
Reading Week – No Class

Week Seven
Tuesday, Feb. 23
Curnutt
HW: Catch-Up on All Readings

Thursday, Feb. 25
Review Day
HW: “The Environment (Introduction)” (Timmons 507-513) and Regan, “The Nature and Possibility of an Environmental Ethic” (Blackboard)

Week Eight
Tuesday, Mar. 2
Regan – Day One
HW: Finish and/or re-read Regan article

Thursday, Mar. 4
Regan – Day Two
HW: Baxter, “People or Penguins: The Case for Optimal Pollution” (Timmons 513-517) and Leopold, “The Land Ethic” (Timmons 517-521)

Week Nine
Tuesday, Mar. 9
Second Paper Assignment Handout
Baxter and Leopold
HW: Taylor, “The Ethics of Respect for Nature” (Timmons 522-532)

Thursday, Mar. 11
Taylor
HW: Thomson, “A Refutation of Environmental Ethics” (Timmons 533-541)

Week Ten
Tuesday, Mar. 16
Thomson
HW: Hill, “Ideals of Human Excellence and Preserving the Natural Environment” (Timmons 542-548)

Thursday, Mar. 18
Second Paper Assignment Due in Class
Hill
HW: Boaz, “Drug-Free America or Free America?” (Timmons 140-145) and Wilson, “Against the Legalization of Drugs” (Timmons 145-149)

Week Eleven
Tuesday, Mar. 23
Boaz and Wilson
HW: Goodin, "Permissible Paternalism: Saving Smokers from Themselves" (Timmons 150-155)

Thursday, Mar. 25
Goodin
HW: Shapiro, "Addiction and Drug Policy" (Timmons 155-161) and Newton, "Why is Gambling Wrong?" (Timmons 161-166)

Week Twelve
Tuesday, Mar. 30
Shapiro and Newton
HW: Collins "Is Gambling Immoral? A Virtue Ethics Approach" (Timmons 167-176)

Thursday, Apr. 1
Collins
Final Paper Assignment Handout
HW: "War, Terrorism, and Torture (Introduction)" (Timmons 390-397) and Wasserstrom: "Does Morality Apply to War?" (Timmons 398-401)

Week Thirteen
Tuesday, Apr. 6
Wasserstrom
HW: Khatchadourian, "Terrorism and Morality" (Timmons 401-408)

Thursday, Apr. 9
Khatchadourian
HW: Sterba, "Terrorism and International Justice" (Timmons 414-424)

Week Fourteen
Tuesday, Apr. 13
Sterba
HW: Finish Final Papers

Thursday, Apr. 15
In-Class Peer-Review of Final Papers

Final Papers Due Apr. 20 in Drop Box in Philosophy Department (12th Floor of Social Sciences) by 4 p.m. Drop Box will be along the left wall about 50 feet into the department, marked 'Framarin – PHIL 347'.

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 Britney Luimes, MSC 251, humanitiesrep@su.ucalgary.ca or 220-3913.