

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PHIL 7 Title: MORAL ISSUES
Full Title: Contemporary Moral Issues
Last Reviewed: 2/26/2024

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable
Grading: Grade or P/NP
Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP
Also Listed As:
Formerly:

Catalog Description:
Examination of contemporary moral issues such as captial punishment, euthanasia and abortion and of ethical principles and theories involved in thinking about such issues.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Completion of ENGL 100B or ENGL 100.

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: Examination of contemporary moral issues & of the ethical principles & theories underlying them. (Grade or P/NP)
Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Recommended: Completion of ENGL 100B or ENGL 100.
Limits on Enrollment:
Transfer Credit: CSU;UC. (CAN PHIL4)
Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area			Effective:	Inactive:
	E	Humanities		Fall 1981	
CSU GE:	Transfer Area			Effective:	Inactive:
	C2	Humanities		Fall 1981	
IGETC:	Transfer Area			Effective:	Inactive:
	3B	Humanities		Fall 1981	
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:	
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:	

CID:

CID Descriptor: PHIL 120 Introduction to Ethics
SRJC Equivalent Course(s): PHIL7

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Not Certificate/Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:

The student will:

- (1) Write essays which coherently and thoroughly discuss at an introductory level classical and contemporary moral theories such as ethical egoism, utilitarianism, social contract theory, religious ethics or Kantianism.
- (2) Distinguish between basic concepts such as morality and law, morality and customs, rights and consequences, and persons and nonpersons.
- (3) Write essays which discuss some contemporary moral issues thoroughly and fairly and which correctly apply ethical theories and concepts to them. Issues considered might be abortion, duties to the poor, euthanasia, in vitro fertilization, capital punishment, treatment of animals, etc.

Topics and Scope:

The moral issues considered in any particular Philosophy 7 course will vary from course to course. A typical course is as follows:

1. Introduction to key concepts, theories and principles found in the study of ethics (e.g. reason and morality, subjectivism, relativism, religious ethics, naturalism, utilitarianism, rights, virtue).
2. Application of these key concepts, theories and principles to specific contemporary moral issues. For each issue studied, there will be:
 - a. a discussion of necessary background information.
 - b. a discussion of the basic moral arguments involved in the issue.
 - c. a critical evaluation of these arguments stressing objectivity and fairness.

3. Examples of issues which may be discussed include, but are not limited to the following: euthanasia, abortion, death penalty, sex roles and sexual equality, pornography and censorship, economic justice and welfare, world hunger, environmental ethics, and animal rights.

Assignment:

Assignments for Philosophy 7 vary but typically include the following:

1. Regular reading assignments from course texts and supplementary materials.
2. Regular or occasional quizzes which cover the assigned readings. Quizzes may be either multiple choice or short essay.
3. Papers or exams. If exams are given, the exams are one hour long and are essay exams. If papers are given, they are three to ten pages papers.
4. A final examination, usually an essay exam approximately 2-3 hours long.
5. Students will be encouraged to participate in class discussion.

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written homework, Essay exams, Term papers

Writing
65 - 85%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving
0 - 0%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations
0 - 0%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, SHORT ESSAY OR QUIZZES

Exams
5 - 25%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Other Category
10 - 20%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

SOCIAL ETHICS by Mappes and Zembaty, 4th ed., McGraw Hill, 1992

TODAY'S MORAL ISSUES, Daniel Bonevac, 2nd ed., Mayfield, 1992.

TAKING SIDES: CLASHING VIEWS ON CONTROVERSIAL MORAL ISSUES, 5th ed.,
Dushkin, 1996.

CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES, Lawrence Hinman, 1st ed., Prentice Hall, 1996.