



## COURSE OUTLINE

**COURSE NO.** HUM 203

**CREDIT HOURS** 3

**DATE** Fall 2007

**CLASS HOURS** 3

**PREPARED BY** Arts & Sciences

**COURSE NAME** Ethics, Values & Morality

**LAB HOURS** 0

APPROVED BY : Ellen Sostarich, Dean of Arts and  
Sciences

**PREREQUISITES** None

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Rationales by which individuals and societies determine what constitutes ethical and moral behavior. Includes an overview of moral philosophy and theories of value formation. Success skills covered in this class include: Communicates Effectively; Demonstrates Learning and Critical Thinking; maintains Professional Skills and Attitudes; Community, Cultural, and Global Awareness; Maintains a Code of Ethics.

### **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of this course the learner is able to do the following:

1. Distinguish among ethics, values, and morality through exposure to views and approaches of philosophers past and present.
2. Explain the nature of the relationship(s) among ethics, values, and morality through analyzing philosophical arguments in the contexts and traditions in which they occur.
3. Apply various ethical concepts and theories through rationales to situational dilemmas in an effort to identify various possible courses of action. Includes Kantianism, relativism, utilitarianism, naturalism, absolutism, and virtue ethics.
4. Develop and articulate personal values through exposure to relevant philosophical thought and research.
5. Identify typical American values and assess personal values through discussion and reflective writing for how those relate to established moral/ethical theory.
6. Identify the implicit and explicit values in professional "codes of ethics" from a review representative samples.

### **COURSE MATERIALS**

Text: Elements of Moral Philosophy

Authors: James Rachels

Publisher: McGraw Hill

Edition: Fifth edition

Internet resources for varied perspectives will supplement the text.

**SAFETY PRACTICES** Common practices regarding safety are to be observed in class. You are to ask your instructor for help when any situation arises which is potentially dangerous.

## **TOPICAL OUTLINE**

### Topic I Ethics & Values-An overview

An introduction to the basic concepts and terminology relevant to the study of ethics and values. Includes distinguishing between ethics and values, normative and non-normative statements, and personal and social values. Uses perspectives from famous philosophers.

### Topic II Justifying Ethical Positions

A review of the various appeals, reasons, and excuses people employ to justify their behaviors and their ethical positions. Examples of appeals to emotion, rationalizations, and motivations are used to illustrate non-rational justification.

### Topic 3 Ethics & Morality: Philosophical Approaches

An overview of the major philosophical approaches to determining what constitutes moral behavior. Includes examination of the arguments for and against Kantianism (categorical imperatives), utilitarianism, relativism, intuitionism, hedonism, absolutism, and situationism.

### Topic 4 Ethical Dilemmas: An American Sampling

A consideration of the supporting and opposing views, and the underlying values and ethical positions, on a variety of American social issues including equal opportunity, and affirmative action, abortion, genetic engineering, euthanasia and death with dignity, and capital punishment.

### Topic 5 Value Formation & Clarification

An overview of the theory and research findings relating to the development of personal values. Includes a summary of Kohlberg's stage theory, contextual relativism, and social learning theory. Assessment exercises give students a better understanding of their own personal value system and how that system compares to other cultures.

### Topic 6 Occupational Ethics

An analysis of the nature and importance of ethical behavior in occupational settings. Includes a discussion of organizational values and a perusal of various professional "codes of ethics."

### **USE OF CELL PHONES OR OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

The use of cell phones during classes and labs is a disrespectful distraction to your instructor and other classmates. Please turn your cell phone and other electronic devices off while you are in class/lab. In emergency situations, please discuss limited use of a cell phone with our instructor prior to the class during which you would like to use your cell phone.

### **STUDENT INSURANCE/COVERAGE**

Hocking College insurance does not cover a student in cases of an accident or illness. Students are responsible for providing their own health and accident insurance. The Hocking College Health Center provides information on a student health insurance plan. Please see the Health Center (JL 241) for information on costs, coverage, and how to enroll in the plan.

### **DISABILITY NOTICE**

If you have been diagnosed with a disability that hinders your academic success, please immediately contact the Access Center Office of Disabilities in JL 249 for special accommodations.

#### **Hocking College Evaluation of the Learner**

Ethics, Values, and Morality

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HUM 203

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Online: 2007

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Approved by: Ellen Sostarich, Dean, Arts and Sciences

You will be examining definition and theory for ethics, morals, and values for societies and for the individual. Through examination and discussion you will gain insight into other cultures as well as your own. You will have multiple opportunities to engage in discussion with your instructor, other students in the course, and professionals in a community.

#### ***Course Requirements***

### **EXAMINATIONS AND QUIZZES:**

There will be quizzes, discussion forums, a midterm test, and a final. Quizzes may be in the form of objective or subjective questions and will count as one grade. A midterm and final will be part of the course. Discussions will take place in the Discussion Forum within WebCT.

Specific details for each evaluation are in the “Course Content” in WebCT.

### **PROJECTS/HOMEWORK AND SUCCESS SKILLS AND/OR SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY ASSIGNMENTS:**

Reflective writing will involve close scrutiny of your thoughts and feelings about case studies, theory, and observations. You will also have opportunity to watch one movie for the course. Choices will be available through the Hocking College Learning Resource Center to view on campus. You may also choose to rent the movie and watch it on your own. Specific details are available for this project in the “Course Content” accessed from the homepage in WebCT.

#### **Success Skills:**

Success skills covered in this class include: Communicates Effectively—(A-2) Logically organizes, develops and communicates an idea or position. (A-5) Uses appropriate vocabulary, grammar, punctuation, spelling and syntax.(A-9) Applies effective listening techniques. Demonstrates Learning and Critical Thinking— (C-1) Asks pertinent questions. (C-2) Applies effective observation techniques.(C-3) Gathers necessary information using a variety of primary and secondary sources and techniques.(C-7) Perceives relationships. (C-8) Identifies fallacious reasoning, and withholds judgment when evidence is inconsistent or incomplete. (C-10) Analyzes own position in relation to alternative or conflicting viewpoints. (C-12) Draws reasoned conclusions. (C-13) Anticipates consequences. Maintains Professional Skills and Attitudes—(D-4) Follows organizational policies and procedures.(D-5) Recognizes organization structure and uses chain of command.(D-7) Sets priorities and manages time efficiently in accordance with priorities.(D-8) Uses and applies pertinent technology, including computers.(D-10) Demonstrates promptness and regular attendance. Community, Cultural, and Global Awareness—Click on each Indicator to see its sub-descriptors.) (G-2) Demonstrates knowledge of principles of democracy, rights of individuals and civic responsibilities.(G-3) Demonstrates awareness of regional cultural, ethnic and racial differences.(G-4) Respects rights and dignity of diverse groups.(G-7) Demonstrates a commitment to responding to the needs and interests of the community. Maintains a Code of Ethics—(H-1) Acts Honestly.(H-2) Acts responsibly.(H-3) Acts in accordance with a reasoned and defensible code of ethics.(H-4) Resolves value conflicts and moral dilemmas through a decision-making process.(H-5) Accepts accountability for own action or inaction.(H-6) Respects rights and dignity of others.(H-7) Respects intellectual property rights.

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Attendance is very important for this class even though it is an online class. Understanding of theory and terms depends upon sharing ideas. Consult the weekly schedule and course content for readings, tests, and submission of work. Late submissions may have penalties. Quizzes and tests will only be available at certain times. Failure to take the quiz/test in that time frame may mean you receive a zero on that test or a deduction from possible points.

#### **PARTICIPATION**

Participation is vital to your success. We are working in groups for part of this class; therefore, you are expected to participate in active questioning and response to the questioning and responses of others as stipulated in the assignment.

**EXTRA PROJECTS**

Extra credit is not available for this class.

**Grading Scale**

Point Values

Quizzes.....forty points each

Midterm.....sixty points

Discussion Forums.....twenty points each

Reflective Papers..... forty points

Final.....eighty points

Points are translated to letter grades as follows:

Percent of points: 95-100%= A, 92-94%= A-, 88-90%= B+, 85-87= B, 82-84%= B-, 79-81%= C+, 76-78%= C, 73-75%= C-, 70-72%= D+, 67-69%= D, 64-66% = D-, below 64% = F. At time in the quarter you wish to know your grade you may divide the number of points earned by the total possible points.

**POLICY REGARDING HONESTY**

Honesty and integrity are major elements in professional behavior and are expected of each student. This is part of the **Success Skill** "Maintains a Code of Ethics." All work is assumed to be your own unless special permission is granted from the instructor or sources are appropriately cited. It is expected that you will be honest in all endeavors related to the completion of this course, just as you must be in all activities at work.

The definition of academic misconduct that is provided in the *Hocking College Student Guide* applies to this course and all other courses that you are taking at the College. It is a Code I Offense:

- A. **Academic Misconduct** refers to dishonesty in examination (cheating); presenting the ideas or writing of someone else's as one's own (plagiarism); knowingly furnishing false information to the college by forgery, alteration, or misuse of college documents, records or identification. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to:
1. Permitting another student to plagiarize or cheat from your work,
  2. Submitting an academic exercise, written work, project, or computer program that has been prepared totally or in part by another,
  3. Improperly acquiring knowledge of the contents of an exam,

4. Using unauthorized material during an exam, to include notes, information, calculators, or other electronic devices or programs during exams or for assignments from which they have been expressly or implicitly prohibited,
5. Submitting the same paper in two different courses without knowledge and consent of all faculty members involved,
6. Obtaining academic material through stealing or other unauthorized means,
7. Falsification of research findings and methodology.

Academic Misconduct is unacceptable behavior in all Hocking College courses. A student observed or found to be engaged in academic misconduct on a test or assignment in this course will receive (*Insert consequences as decided by individual faculty/program or academic unit*). A written report of the incident, signed by the instructor and the student, will be submitted to the Campus Judiciaries Office. **The Office of Campus Judiciaries will conduct a judicial proceeding with the accused student, resulting in a finding of “In Violation” or “Not In Violation” of the Hocking College Code of Conduct. The outcome of the judicial process will not be used to modify or validate the specific consequence as decided by the individual faculty/program or academic unit, but may be used to determine future *Judicial consequences*, in demonstrating a pattern of behavior on the part of the student.**

Further information pertaining to Academic Misconduct can be found by contacting the Office of Campus Judiciaries, Oakley 210, or by referring to the *Student Code of Conduct* found on the Hocking College website ([www.hocking.edu](http://www.hocking.edu)).

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### **FINAL GRADE CALCULATION**

Your final grade is calculated by totaling your earned points and dividing by the number of total possible points to get the final percentage. All requirements for the course must be completed before you are eligible for a final grade.

Percent of points: 95-100%= A, 92-94%= A-, 88-90%= B+, 85-87= B, 82-84%= B-, 79-81%= C+, 76-78%= C, 73-75%= C-, 70-72%= D+, 67-69%= D, 64-66% = D-, below 64% = F.

### **ACADEMIC APPEALS PROCESS**

Academic grade appeals consist of complaints from students concerning final grades given. The Appeals Process is available only for final grades not for an individually graded assignment. When a student believes that his or her academic performance has been unfairly or improperly graded, the first recourse will be communication with the faculty member in an attempt to resolve the complaint. A student appeal of a final grade must be formally initiated within one term of the grade being posted. Students should understand that the burden of

proof will be theirs to demonstrate.

**STUDENT GREIVANCE AND DUE PROCESS PROCEDURES**

Due process procedures for the College are located in the Student Code of Conduct, *Policy & Procedures Manual*, published by the Student Affairs Office, Oakley 210.

**DISABILITIES NOTICE**

If you have been diagnosed with a disability that impacts your academic success, please immediately contact the Access Center, Office of Disability Services in JL 249 regarding accommodations.