

Course Syllabus

PHL 236: Ethics

Instructor: James Filson

Email: temnick2@hotmail.com or I can be reached at my JCC email which is

available via the JCC website. I am also available on Facebook to answer questions.

Classroom hours: This class meets Wednesday from 6:00 to 9:54 at JW Hall, room 109.

Office Hours: Available on request

Textbook(s): The Elements of Moral Philosophy by James Rachels and Stuart Rachels and The Right Thing To Do: Basic Readings in Moral Philosophy by James Rachels and Stuart Rachels.

Course description: In this course, students will examine various questions concerning the status of ethical judgments and become familiar with certain

approaches to ethics that have been influential in Western philosophy, including Kantian ethics, utilitarianism and virtue-based ethical theories.

In

addition, students will consider how these approaches can be employed in ethical decision-making.

Grading scale: The class is graded on a scale of 200 Points that break down as follows

50 points for mid-term

50 points for Final

10 points per quiz on nine random mini-tests

10 points for participation/attendance

Grade Percentages:

100% to 95% = 4.0

94% to 92% = 3.5

91% to 85% = 3.0

84% to 78% = 2.5

75% to 70% = 2.0

Attendance: You are permitted two unexcused absences without academic penalty. Classroom assignments/quizzes missed after the permitted excused absences will not be available for re-testing. The ten points allotted for

participation/attendance will no longer be awarded if you have more than two classes.

Classroom lecture topics

Wk1. Socrates + Ethical Principles

Wk.2.Plato

Wk 3.Aristotle and Logic + Ethical Principles

Wk.4. Dexter

Wk.5.St Augustine and "God and the problem of evil"

Wk.6.St Thomas Aquinas

Wk.7. Whistle Blowing + ethical principles

Wk.8. David Hume

Wk.9. I. Kant

Wk.10. J.S. Mill

Wk.11.Jean Paul Sartre

Wk.12.Albert Camus + The Insider

Wk.13.Review