

**ETHICS AND VALUES**

**PHIL 205G.X06; X07; X19**

 **Spring 2024**

**Student**

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 Learning Objectives

* Demonstrate knowledge of several different theories of ethics, and contemporary ethical issues.
* Demonstrate ability to critically read works of philosophy, literature, religion, and history toward understanding the basis of their ethical views.
* Articulate clearly and rationally support their own ethical views and positions.
* Interrelate knowledgably, reflectively, responsibly, and respectfully with a society of increasing intercultural connections.
* Demonstrate knowledge and recognition of complexities inherent in global and intercultural issues related to ethics and values.
* Knowledge of several different theories of ethics, and contemporary ethical issues.
* Knowledge of the ethical views expressed in works of philosophy, literature, religion, and history.
* Recognize the rational underpinning of ethical views and position in yourself and in others. Recognize the value of interrelating knowledgeably, reflectively, responsibly, and respectfully with a society of increasing intercultural connections.

**Course Description:** Challenges students to (1) develop knowledge and recognition of complexities inherent in global and intercultural issues, focusing on their ethical and normative dimensions with an emphasis on issues of ethics and values, (2) develop the ability to interrelate knowledgeably, reflectively, responsibly, and respectfully with a society of increasing intercultural connections, (3) critically read works of philosophy, literature, religion, and history toward understanding the basis of their ethical views; and (4) read, study, research, discuss, and write about difficult ethical issues. Focuses on global and intercultural issues with an emphasis on their ethical and normative dimensions. Engages students in serious reflection on issues of ethics and values as they relate to the students' own lives as knowledgeable, thoughtful, reflective, responsible, and respectful citizens within a society of increasing intercultural connections.

This course fulfills the Global/Intercultural (G/I) requirement for graduation. Objectives for the G/I requirement include:

* Gaining an informed and nuanced understanding of global or intercultural literature.
* Gaining appreciation for the contribution of different cultural groups to educational, social and cultural institutions, and for the value of difference within these contexts.
* Gaining confidence in interrelating respectfully with individuals representing cultures and perspectives other than one’s own.
* Becoming knowledgeable, responsible, reflective and respectful citizens within an increasingly multicultural society and global community.

UVU offers a Global/Intercultural Distinction. If you are interested in learning more, go to:

https://www.kaltura.com/tiny/fnlzz

and/or

<https://www.uvu.edu/global/gi-initiative/distinction.html>

When you have completed this course, you will demonstrate knowledge of several different ethical theories and contemporary ethical issues. You will also be familiar with ethical views expressed in works of philosophy, literature, religion and history. You will be able to recognize the rational underpinning of ethical views and positions in yourself and other people. You will also be able to acknowledge the value of interrelating knowledgeably, reflectively, responsibly, and respectfully in our increasingly intercultural society,

**Students with Disabilities:** If you require special accommodations or have any disability which may impair your ability to successfully complete this course, contact the Accessibility Services Department (LC 312). Please let us know so that we can properly assist you. To schedule an appointment or to speak with a counselor, call the ASD office at 801.863.8747. Deaf/Hard of Hearing Individuals email Nicole.hemmingsen@uvu.edu or text 385.208.2677. Academic accommodations are granted to all students who have documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the instructor and the student by the Accessibility Services Department.

**Accommodation:** Students needing accommodations due to a disability, including temporary and pregnancy accommodations, should contact Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747, located in LC 312. Deaf/Hard of Hearing students who are already approved for accommodations and need to request ASL interpreters, transcription services, or closed captioning, please email dhhservices@uvu.edu

**Intimidation, Harassment, Discrimination:**

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran’s status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has experienced or experiences harassment or sexual assault including, dating and domestic violence, stalking or sexual exploitation, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office for Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, BA-203, (801) 863-7999. Please be aware that all faculty members and university employees are considered “Responsible Employees” and are required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and relationship violence and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. Please know that you can seek confidential resources at UVU Student Health Services, SC-221, (801) 863-8876.

Please visit <https://www.uvu.edu/equalopportunity/>  for more information.

If you believe you are being subjected to intimidation, harassment, or discrimination, call the Equity Officer at 863.8207 or the Police at 863.5555.

**Student Health Services:** Offers an array of health services to students, including wellness education and mental health services (behavioral medicine). Call this office if you have concerns about the safety or behavior of fellow students, TAs or Professors. Trust your instincts and share your concerns. Located in Sorenson Center 221, their telephone number is: [(801) 863-8876](https://www.google.com/search?q=where+is+the+student+health+center+at+uvu&rlz=1C1GCEA_enUS970US970&oq=where+is+the+student+health+center+at+uvu&aqs=chrome..69i57j33i160.12600j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

**Religious Accommodations:**

UVU values and acknowledges a wide range of faiths and religions as part of our student body, and as such provides accommodations for students. Religious belief includes the student's faith or conscience as well as the student's participation in an organized activity conducted under the auspices of the student's religious tradition or religious organization. The accommodations include reasonable student absences from scheduled examinations or academic requirements if they create an undue hardship for sincerely held religious beliefs. For this to occur, the student must provide a written notice to the instructor of the course for which the student seeks said accommodation prior to the event. The UVU campus has a place for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of individual religious expression as is described at <https://www.uvu.edu/ethics/reflectioncenter/>

**Food Pantry:** If you have trouble affording food, know that UVU has a food pantry available:

<https://www.uvu.edu/socialimpact/programs/food-pantry.html>

**Veterans’ Success Center:** UVU is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere for student veterans and their families. If you are a student veteran or a student family member of a veteran, you are eligible for support services from the Veterans Success Center and may be eligible for Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits. For help receiving your benefits please contact the Veterans Success Center in the Woodbury Business Building, Room 100, via email at veterans@uvu.edu, or by calling 801.863.8212.

**Academic Tutoring – Humanities and Social Sciences Lab:**

Offers academic assistance in all areas of study, including research and writing. Located in Room LA015; contact by email (tutoring@uvu.edu) or phone (801.863.5376) and find on the web at <http://www.uvu.edu/academictutoring/>. Services are free to all UVU students and are available in both face-to-face and online tutoring sessions on a first-come, first-served basis. While tutors will not complete or correct homework for you or help you on take-home tests or quizzes, they will help you understand and reinforce concepts that you are learning in your classes.

**University Writing Center:** This center offers free, individualized, expert help with writing for any UVU student, by appointment or on a drop-in basis. Consultants can help you develop strategies to improve your writing. Here is the website address for more information: https://www.uvu.edu/writingcenter/

**Research Assistance:** The UVU library has a large collection of books, media, journals, and databases for students to use.  All of this can be accessed online. The library also houses the largest computer lab on campus and has several group study rooms (which are unavailable during the pandemic).  The librarians can show you how to access library resources, help you find research, demonstrate how to correctly cite works, and show you how to discern good sources from bad; all of this can be accomplished online.  The Philosophy & Humanities Librarian, **Jacques D’Emal**, can be reached at: Jacques.Demal@uvu.edu. You can also use the calendar feature on the library homepage to schedule appointments with him. His office number is: 801-863-8058. He can help students via phone or email.  As the Philosophy & Humanities Librarian, it is part of his job to assist you with your research, so don’t hesitate to go to his for help.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic dishonesty includes cheating on exams, plagiarism, and

unauthorized collaboration with other students on assignments. Such deceit is unfair to hardworking students who do their own work. If it is not yours, do not pretend that it is. Students are expected to adhere to the academic standards outlined in the Student Rights and Responsibilities Manual. Please know there are serious consequences for academic dishonesty and I will follow college policy to the letter if such infractions occur. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE!

For more information about plagiarism, see

<https://www.uvu.edu/studentconduct/students/integrity.html>

**Policy on the use of Generative AI Tools:**

Academic integrity is a core principle at UVU and it's imperative that all students uphold this principle-- whether using AI-based tools or otherwise. Using an AI-content generator such as ChatGPT to complete assignments without attribution violates academic integrity. By submitting assignments in this class, you pledge to affirm that they are your own work and you attribute use of any tools and sources. Learning to use AI responsibly and ethically is an important skill in today’s society. Be aware of the limits of conversational, generative AI tools such as ChatGPT.

In this class, a responsible use of AI-based tools in completing coursework or assessments must be done in accordance with the following:

* You must clearly identify the use of AI-based tools in your work. Any work that utilizes AI-based tools must be clearly marked as such, including the specific tool(s) used. For example, if you use ChatGPT-3, you must cite "ChatGPT-3. (YYYY, Month DD of query). "Text of your query." Generated using OpenAI. <https://chat.openai.com/>"
* You must be transparent in how you used the AI-based tool, including what work is your original contribution. An AI detector may be used to detect AI-driven work.
* You must ensure your use of AI-based tools does not violate any copyright or intellectual property laws.
* You must not use AI-based tools to cheat on assessments.
* You must not use AI-based tools to plagiarize without citation.

AI is a tool, just like a pencil or a computer. However, unlike most tools you need to acknowledge using it. Pay close attention to whatever information you use in your own work that is produced from AI, and explain how/what you used at the end of assignments. My recommendation is to screen shot and save everything (i.e., what prompts you used, what answers were produced, where, why, and how). This is new territory, but basic attribution rules still apply. Cite everything, otherwise you are likely violating academic integrity policies.

Don't trust anything the system says. Assume it is wrong, unless you already know the answer and can verify with trusted sources. It works best for topics you deeply understand.

Violations of this policy will be dealt with in accordance with UVU’s academic integrity policy. If you are found in violation of this policy, you may face penalties such as a reduction in grade, failure of the assignment or assessment, or even failure of the course. Finally, it's your responsibility to be aware of the academic integrity policy and take the necessary steps to ensure that your use of AI-based tools is in compliance with this policy. If you have questions, please speak with me first, as we navigate together how best to responsibly use these tools.

Some student work may be submitted to AI or plagiarism detection tools in order to ensure that student work product is human created.  The submission of AI generated answers constitutes plagiarism and is a violation of UVU’s student code of conduct.

**How to Take This Class:** This is an online class with no face-to-face class time; it is an “asynchronous” course, which means that you can complete assignments and readings without a mandated class time and as your schedule permits. There are some deadlines for quizzes, homework, reading assignments, and discussions, but you will generally have a range of days to submit. Since this is a class with a set online schedule, you will not be permitted to work ahead of the class.

The course is divided into modules that address various introductory topics in Philosophy. There will be some audio, video, and/or written components to introduce and explain the topics. You have been assigned a text for the course (see below); other readings will be posted on Canvas. At the end of this syllabus, there is a detailed, weekly schedule for readings, videos, homework, discussion, and quizzes. In some cases, we may hold virtual meetings in order to facilitate coursework. The term is divided into weeks. Unless otherwise noted, the work for the week is due no later than Sunday of the week at which time the assignments lock down. You will find due dates that you wish to observe, but if you turn it in by Sunday at midnight, you will not be penalized for late work. After that time, points will be subtracted from your grade.

**Download Microsoft Teams** for the course. We will use it for test reviews and face-to-face meetings

**Every Monday**, I will post an announcement to let you know what readings and assignments are due for the week. Be sure to check additional announcements that I may post during the week to keep you informed about l information or issues that you need to know about between formal announcements.

**I will assign a number to you** at the beginning of class that designates which questions you are to answer in the discussions, when there are several questions. I’ll notify you about the number through an announcement. Your numbers will range from 1-5. If you are assigned #4, for example, you will answer that number in the discussions.

The course is divided into Modules which address different topic areas in Ethics. At the beginning of each module, you will find a detailed list of reading assignments, quiz assignments, discussion questions, and videos to watch. Some of the modules take more than a week to complete, so you’ll find a timeline in your syllabus. Occasionally, I will assign a P/F (or in Canvas, as Complete/Incomplete) submission. It’s a good idea to participate in those assignments since they may have an impact on other assignments and your examinations, and will also affect grades that are borderline, i.e., if you did the assignment and you are a point or two away from an A, I will bump your grade. Consult both your syllabus and the module descriptions in order to proceed through the course. In some cases, if I think it might be helpful, I may add material to your modules (powerpoint discussions and video presentations) that may not be reflected in your syllabus. And, of course, you are welcome to contact me with questions.

Canvas closes on **May 3** and will not accept work after that. Be sure to submit **all** of your work before that time. Please organize your semester so that you can finish the course.

Know that I am deeply invested in helping you understand the concepts and ideas in the course and my goal is to help you enjoy learning the concepts we’ll address and to help you to complete the course. Please contact me with any questions or concerns, either by email or by telephone. I will usually get back to you within 24 hours (in most cases).

**Help with Canvas:** If you need help with Canvas or other IT issues, here is some important contact information:

**IT: 801.863.8888**  or [www.uvu.edu/servicedesk](http://www.uvu.edu/servicedesk)

**Office of Teaching and Learning (OTL): (they can help with Canvas): 801.863.8255**

The website for Office of Teaching and Learning is: [www.uvu.edu/otl](http://www.uvu.edu/otl) They have an online chat that is managed most days of the week and is open from 8AM-8PM. They can generally help out with most problems you might encounter. My expertise with respect to Canvas is fairly limited, so OTL is a good place to start.

**Class Etiquette**: Most students do not need to be reminded of basic matters of online course etiquette, but some students regrettably need such guidance. In general, please be considerate of others. For those who need a little help in this area, here are some tips:

* Please be respectful of others in the class, behave civilly toward one another and treat others and their opinions with respect. Dishonesty, unkind comments, use of coarse and profane language, and bigotry are demeaning to all of us and are sometimes illegal. Disruptive or unproductive behavior, untoward comments, rude remarks, and general bad attitudes will result in at least a letter reduction of your grade. If the offense warrants, you will be removed from the class and risk an administrative withdrawal.
* Names and Personal Pronouns: If you prefer to use a name other than the name the University officially uses, please let me know. Likewise, if you have a preferred personal pronoun. Every attempt is made to honor your wishes, preferred name, and attributions. Please be aware that your University records are held under your legal name – including final grade records. If you would like additional assistance regarding chosen names or personal pronouns, please visit [uvu.edu/multicultural/lgbt](https://click.mlsend.com/link/c/YT0xMjI2MjUxMjY4NjI4OTQ0Mjg0JmM9cTRzNiZlPTk1MTI5OSZiPTI3MTExMzg5MiZkPWYyczZsMmg%3D.888Vej_oKjsJ6gWLu_vpqqXoUCiqhamRJS5pFEF9E98)  .
* The guidelines for classroom civility, etiquette, and deportment apply to the written, online, and face-to-face discussions you engage in with your classmates. Here are a few tips about engaging in such discussions: 1) Remember to participate. 2) Remember that this is an academic dialogue, so you will be expected to write in complete sentences with credible English and cite any sources you have used to support your position. 3) Be sure your posts contribute to the discussion. 4) Unwanted or aggressive behaviors will result in being removed from the discussion and prevented from entering other discussions with a loss of relevant points.

**Grading and Course Requirements**:

* **Syllabus Quiz (25 points)**
* Q**uizzes (400 points)** 4 online quizzes worth 100 points each
* **Online Discussions (575 possible points)**

 **Discussion #1**, in which you introduce yourself. (P/F)

 **Discussion #2**, Discuss one of the Introductory Questions (50 + 25)

 **Discussion #3** on What is Ethics? Gandhi, and Ethical Relativism (75 + 25 = 100 points)

 **Discussion #4** Ethical Egoism Hallie, Buddhism (75 + 25 = 100)

 **Discussion #5** on the video, *I AM* (75 + 25 = 100)

 **Discussion #6** on Consequentialism, Utilitarianism, Deontology, Kant (75+25 = 100 points)

 **Discussion #7** on Virtue Theory (75 + 25 = 100 points)

* **Student Rating of Instructor** **(5 points extra credits)**

* If relevant, late assignments will receive 80% of the possible grade and will not be accepted 1 week after the due date.
* Please note that Canvas figures your final grade in percentages and not an accumulation of points. When checking your grades, please total points and check against the total points breakdown below.
* All uploaded assignments are to be in pdf, doc, or docx format

**Disclosure: On occasion we may address profound, sensitive, and sometimes disturbing moral issues and dilemmas. You may disagree with me and with others on points of belief, but please know we can engage in thoughtful and courteous discussions without agreement on all issues. Every attempt will be made to address such issues with respect and thoughtfulness and students are expected to do the same.**

**Grading Criteria:**

**Intelligibility** Can we understand what you are trying to say?

**Clarity** Is your writing clear? Do you express your points with precision?

**Understanding** Do you understand the writers and the issues well?

**Support** Do you support what you say with reasons and arguments?

**Depth** Do you get at the heart of the issues? Or does your writing show only a superficial understanding?

**Total points possible for the semester– 1.000 points**

A 1000-940; A- 939-900; B+ 899-870; B 869-830; B- 829-800; C+ 799-770; C 769-730; C- 729-700; D+ 699-670; D 669-630; D- 629-600; E anything below 600.

**Note**: **All aspects of this course are subject to change at the discretion of the professor. Any changes will be announced in class and, when possible, through Canvas. Please check Canvas for course announcements sent to your email in UV Link often, since this is the most effective way to communicate with you outside of class. The best way to communicate with me is through my UVU email and Canvas.**

 **Text**

***Ethics: Discovering Right and Wrong***by Louis Pojman and James Fieser, 8th edition. **The first two chapters are listed in the Canvas module until you can acquire the textbook**. Other readings are posted on Canvas under either the author’s name or the title of the reading**.**

**Provisional Schedule:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Topic** | **Assigned Reading, Homework and Instructions**  |
| **Week 1**January 8-14 | **Introductory Module:** **Syllabus/****Course Overview/****Introductory Questions/****Set up groups** | **Watch:** Course overview**Read: How this (Online) Course Works****Read: Syllabus** Syllabus can be found on Canvas in the Introductory Module. **Take the Quiz on the Syllabus****Participate: Discussion #1**Introduce yourself (P/F)**Read:** Introductory Questions**Participate: Discussion #2**Post your response to one of the Introductory Questions and respond to at least one (preferably two) of your classmates’ answers |
| **Week 2**January 15-21 | **Module 1:** **What is Ethics?****Moral Communities** | **Read:** Pojman, Chapter 1, “What is Ethics?” (pdf)**Read:** “Justice for Hedgehogs” (listed on Canvas)**Watch and listen:** Power point with voice over: Online Introduction and Chapter 1**Watch:** Video, “8 Laws of Change” **Read:** Gandhi –“Law of Love”(listed on Canvas)**Read the notes:** Gandhi – Satyagraha and the Law of Love How to Listen to the Gandhi Power Point with voice over**Watch and Listen:** Gandhi Power Point with voice over 2**Watch the Video:** Gandhi**Read:** (optional) MoTzu |
| **Week 3**January 22-January 28 | **Module 2****Ethical Relativism****Quiz #1 on Modules 1 & 2** | **Read:** Pojman chapter on Ethical Relativism (pdf) **Read and watch:** Ethical Relativism power point with voice over 2**Watch the Video:** Moral Relativism**Watch the Video:** (optional) Moral Relativism**Read:** Mary Midgley, “Trying Out One’s New Sword (Canvas)**Read:** (optional) Mencius**Participate: Discussion #3** on What is Ethics? Gandhi, and Ethical Relativism. (Answer the question whose number corresponds to the number I gave you earlier.) **Take Quiz #1** on Modules 1 & 2 |
| **Week 4**January 29 – February 4 | **Module 3****Ethical Egoism****Moral Psychology****Buddhism** | **Read**: Pojman, Chapter on Egoism and Altruism**Read and Watch:** Ethical Egoism Powerpoint with voice over**Watch:** Ethical Egoism **Watch:** “Friends” Episode on selfless good deeds**Watch:** Every Man for Himself – Pirates of the Caribbean**Read:** Hallie (pdf on Canvas)**Watch:** Hallie and the Problem of Cruelty**Watch the Videos:** Le Chambon During World War II; “Weapons of the Spirit” (excerpt) “Heroism of Le Chambon” **Read:** Buddhism and Death (pdf on Canvas)**Watch:** The Buddha**Watch:** Buddhism’s Four Noble Truths**Watch:** Attitudes toward Death-**Participate: Discussion #4** Ethical Egoism Hallie, Buddhism |
| **Week 5**February 5 – February 11 | **Module 4** | **Watch the Video:** “I Am”**Participate**: **Discussion #5**  |
| **Week 6**February 12-February 18 | **Module 4****Consequentialism and Utilitarianism** | **Read**: Pojman, Chapter on Utilitarianism;**Watch:** Video on Consequentialism**Read and Watch:** Utilitarianism power point**Watch:** Video on Utilitarianism **Watch**: Video on Utilitarianism from Crash Course Philosophy**Watch:** Videos on Trolley Problem  |
| **Week 7**February 19-25  | **Deontology** | **Read**: Pojman Chapter on Deontology**Read**: (optional) Kant (pdf)**Watch:** Kant vs. Mill**Watch:** Kant and Deontology**Watch:** Kantian Ethics |
| **Week 8** February 26 – March 3 | **Deontology, continued****Bhagavad Gita****Quiz #2 on Modules 3 & 4** | **Watch:** Kant and Categorical Imperative **Read:** Bhagavad Gita (pdf)– located on Canvas**Read and Watch:** Bhagavad Gita with voice-over power point**Watch:** Bhagavad Gita Made Easy**Watch:** 10 Lessons from Bhagavad Gita**Watch:** (Optional) Bhagavad Gita Quotes **Take: Quiz #2****Participate: Discussion #6** on Consequentialism, Utilitarianism, Deontology, Kant, |
| **Week 9** March 4- March 10 | **Module 5****Virtue Theory** | **Read:** Pojman Chapter on Virtue Ethics**Read**: Aristotle, excerpt (pdf)**Watch:** Aristotle on Virtue Ethics **Watch:** Virtue Ethics Lecture power-point |
| **Week 10**March 11 – March 17 | **Spring Break** |  |
| **Week 11**March 18 – March 24 | **Virtue Theory, continued** | **Watch:** Instructor Lecture: Aristotle on Virtue Ethics**Read:** Video Lecture Transcripts - Aristotle**Watch:** Father Kolbe **Watch:** Father Kolbe-2 |
| **Week 12**March 25 – March 31 | **Virtue Theory, continued****Confucius** | **Read:** Confucius, excerpts from the “Analects” (pdf)located on Canvas**Watch:** Confucianism |
| **Week 13**April 1 – April 7 | **Quiz 3** | **Take**: **Quiz #3****Extra Credit: SRI (5 points no later than week 16)** |
| **Week 14**April 8 – April 14 | **Module 6****The Moral Domain: Animal Ethics and Environmental Ethics** | **Read:** “We Are All Related,” Eagle Man (marked pdf)**Read:** Eagle Man Commentary **Read:** “Walking Between Worlds,” Bruchac (pdf)**Watch:** (optional) 19th century American Indian Drum and Dance footage**Read:** Leopold (1949) The Land Ethics from Nash**Watch:** The Fierce Green Fire |
| **Week 15**April 15 – April 21 | **The Moral Domain, continued** | **Read:** “Divorce among the Gulls (marked pdf)”**Read:** Commentary on Divorce Among the Gulls**Read:** (optional) Speciesism**Watch**: Philip Wollen on the Environment**Watch:** Earthlings trailer **Watch:** (optional) Earthlings**Picture of chimpanzee used in medical experiments who is now free** **Read:** Explanation of Joanne MacArthur photo of Chimpanzee  |
| **Week 16**April 22 – April 23Last day of Class is April 23 |  | **Participate: Discussion #7** on Virtue Theory and the Moral Domain**Study Questions for Quiz 4** |
| **Finals Week****Take the final quiz by April 29** | **Quiz 4** | **Take Quiz 4** on the Moral Domain |