Phil 2306: Introduction to Ethics  
Section 5420

GENERAL INFORMATION
College Name  El Centro College
Division  Arts & Sciences Division
Semester/Term & Year  Fall 2012

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
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Telephone  214.870.4162
Office Number  C 340
Office Hours  By Appointment Only

COURSE INFORMATION
Course Number  PHIL 2306
Section Number  5420
Credit Hours  3 Credit Hours
Course Title  Ethics
Course Description  Consideration of what constitutes a good and a moral life. Using classical and contemporary theories, students will weigh such ingredients as pleasure, duty, power, and love as they apply to current issues of daily living. Students may
consider ethical problems in business, law, and medicine. The primary goals of this course are to promote students’ (1) awareness of ethical questions and knowledge of their historical contexts from antiquity to the present; and (2) ability to critically interpret and evaluate philosophical texts, positions, and arguments. In particular, we will examine a variety of ethical issues by focusing on forms or ideals of life (How should one/I live? What is the good life?), and models for relating to others (Why should I care about or be just toward others? Do we need friendship, love, community, and justice? What are just social relations?)

Course Prerequisites
Prerequisite: Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in Reading.

Course Requirements
Students are required to:
1. Complete all assigned readings
2. Maintain regular attendance by participate in class discussion
4. Complete all written assignments on-time

Specific Course Learning Outcomes
1. The goals of this course are to promote:
   (a) Familiarity with a wide-range of ethical positions and arguments from antiquity to today, and from diverse cultural and social-political contexts, and
   (b) Critical reasoning and ethical reflection through considering a variety of moral issues and approaches to ethical questions.
2. The objectives of this course are for students to develop their ability and skills in:
   (a) Interpreting texts by accurately and fully describing concepts and arguments.
   (b) Reasoning about ideas by (i) evaluating the content, structure, and strategies of ethical works and (ii) applying concepts and arguments to contemporary issues and their own lives, and
   (c) Collaborating with other students, and presenting and supporting their ideas in public through class participation.

Evaluating this outcome:
Assignments are intended to familiarize you with the readings, encourage you to develop your skills in reasoning, and reflect on ethical issues in different contexts and from a variety of perspectives. Discussions and writing papers should help develop your own thinking and writing to be critical, engaged,
rigorous, and be your own on the basis of the text, and discussions.

**Required Materials**


**Evaluation Procedures**

You will be evaluated on your ability to think critically. I will only know this by your class participation, quizzes and papers.

**Grading Scale**

Grade 1: Discussion Board Answers 30%
Grade 2: Midterm Exam 20%
Grade 3: Final exam 20%
Grade 4: Paper 1 is worth 15%
Grade 5: Final paper is worth 15%

**Exams and Assignments**

You will see 27 discussion forums. You will only have to do 10 of these. They will open according to your assigned reading in your class calendar.

You will have two online final exams that will be multiple choice.

You will have two papers.

**Attendance Policy**

Class attendance is *required*. Class attendance will help you in online discussion which is 30% of your grade.

**Plagiarism** will not be tolerated, and will result in anything from one letter grade drop to course failure, at the discretion of the instructor.

No cell phone use is allowed in class.

Turning In Papers:

Papers will accepted only through e-campus.
Papers should be typed double spaced, in 12 font Times New Roman.

**Amendments to the Syllabus:**

If I make any changes to the syllabus, I will e-mail you and/or let you know in class.
INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES

**ADA Statement**
If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the college Disability Services Office. Room A110; 214.860.2411; 5dso@dcccd.edu

**Religious Holidays**
Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence if, not later than the fifteenth day after the first day of the semester, the student notified the instructor of each class scheduled on the date that the student would be absent for a religious holy day. A “religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under section 11.20, Tax Code. The notice shall be in writing and shall be delivered by the student personally to the instructor, with receipt acknowledged and dated by the instructor or by certify mail, return requested, addressed to the instructor. A student who is excused under this section may not be penalized for the absence, but the instructor may appropriately respond if the student fails to satisfactorily complete the assignment or examination.

**Academic Honesty**
Academic honesty is expected, and integrity is valued in the Dallas County Community Colleges. Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.
As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the DCCCD Code of Student Conduct published in the DCCCD Catalog. More information is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/code.cfm.

**Withdrawal Policy**
If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar’s Office by (semester’s drop date). Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an "F."
If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a "W" (Withdraw) in each class dropped.

**STOP BEFORE YOU DROP**
For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop.
You may drop no more than six courses during your entire undergraduate
career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions.

Remember that once you have accumulated six non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “W.” Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For information, you may access:  https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops

**Repeating this Course**

Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. This class may not be repeated for the third or subsequent time without paying the additional tuition. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 semester. More information is available at: https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/oep/third_attempt.cfm.

**Financial Aid**

Students who are receiving any form of financial aid should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

**Disclaimer**

The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary.

**CLASS POLICIES:**

Everyone will be expected to respect each other when discussing views. No name calling or profanities will be tolerated.

**E-Campus**

E-campus is the web interface used to access Internet-based distance education courses. You will need to have your student Id number to login. Your course section already exists on e-campus. I will be posting announcements, assignments, course information on e-campus. Go to http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/ecampus/

**E-Connect:**

E-connect is the web interface that provides online student services which allow students to search, register, and pay for credit classes, view final grades and financial aid status. Go to https://econnect.dcccd.edu/eConnect You must have an e-mail address on file with the college to access e-Connect. You may use a DCCCD e-mail address, which is free if you are eligible, or you may use a commercial e-mail address. If you have a question contact eConnect@DCCCD.Edu

**Computer use Policy**

This class may require you to utilize campus computers. Please see the
Student Handbook

The student handbook with additional information for students is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0809/ss/computer.cfm?loc=5 or http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/studentservices/spar/

Children

El Centro College recognizes the need to provide for the safety and security of minor children under the age of sixteen (16) present on campus; yet, at the same time, the college also recognizes the need to maintain for all students maximum access to programs, services, and facilities, and an environment conducive to learning. Therefore, the presence of children at El Centro College will be governed by the following guidelines:

• No individual under the age of 16 shall be allowed access to any college facility above the second floor of the “A” building or above the first floor of the “B” and “C” buildings, unless that individual is participating in a program sponsored by the college.
• Minor children will not be allowed in the Student Center unless their parents or guardians are conducting college business in the following offices: Financial Aid, Student Programs and Resources, Workforce, Special Services or the Middle College.
• Minor children will not be permitted in the Library, College Computer Center, Learning Center or Testing Center at any time!
• Minor children who are present on campus in the authorized areas must be under the direct supervision and control of their parent or guardian at all times.
• Disruptions resulting from the presence of any minor child on campus will result in the student being asked to leave the campus along with the minor child.
• Students who are in violation of this policy will be referred to the Campus Police and issued a warning citation (information pertaining to available child care resources will also be given to the student at that time). A second occurrence will result in the student’s receiving a letter from the Dean of Students indicating that a third occurrence will result in the student’s suspension from El Centro College until child care services can be arranged.
• Information will be provided by the Adult Resource Center to assist students in locating affordable child care services.
Fall Semester, 2012

August 20 (M)       Faculty Reports
August 27 (M)       Classes Begin
September 3 (M)     Labor Day Holiday
September 10 (M)    12th Class Day
November 15 (R)     Last Day to Withdraw
November 22 (R)     Thanksgiving Holidays Begin
November 26 (M)     Classes Resume
December 10-13 (M-R) Final Exams
December 13 (R)     Semester Ends

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Calendar

August 27         Syllabus. Introduction to the course.
29               Knowledge and Virtue- Plato pp. 6-21.
                   (Book reserved in the library)
September 3th     Labor Day Holiday
5                Moral Character- Aristotle pp. 23-39
10               Nicomachean Ethics (Books VIII and IX) 335 (?) B.C.
                   Rhetoric (II.4) 330 (?) B.C. (Posted on E-campus)
12th class Day. Last Day to Certify the class
12               Epicurus-The Pleasant Life pp. 40-51
17               Epictetus-Self Discipline pp. 54-66.
19  Cicero “On Friendship” (De Amicitia) 44 B.C.  
(Posted On E-Campus)

24  Saint Augustine-The Love of God  
pp. 69-84.

26  Selections from Augustine's Confessions (GL)  
pp. 79-91

October 1  Thomas Aquinas: Morality and Natural Law  
pp. 87-101.

3  Questions on Love and Charity  
(from Summa Theologiae) A.D. 1269-72  (GL)

8  Fyodor Dostoyevski: From The Brother Karamazov (GL)  
pp. 103-131.

10  William James: “The Religion of Healthy-Mindedness,”  
from The Varieties of Religious Experience (GL)  
pp. 132-142

15  Rene Descartes: The Passions of the Soul  
(GL)  
pp. 143-158.

17  Baruch Spinoza: The Ethics  
(GL)  
pp. 159-484.

22  David Hume: Morality and Sentiment  
pp. 134-146

Midterm Exam online

24  Kant: Duty and Reason  
pp. 149-163

29  Paper 1 due: Please see the Assignment Tab on E-Campus

31  John Stuart Mill: The Greatest Happiness Principle  
pp. 166-180

November 5  Soren Kierkegaard: The Leap of Faith  
pp. 183-198

7  Soren Kierkegaard: You Shall Love Your Neighbor  
(Handout, posted on e-campus)

12  Karl Marx: Morality As Ideology  

14  Friedrich Nietzsche: The Transvaluation of Values  
pp. 230-245.

November 15th, Last day to Withdraw (with W grade)

28  Friedrich Nietzsche: from The Gay Science  
(GL)  
pp. 227-240
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Pages</th>
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<tr>
<td>December 3</td>
<td>Jean-Paul Sartre: Radical Freedom</td>
<td>pp. 305-315.</td>
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<td>Jean-Paul Sartre: from <em>Being and Nothingness (GL)</em></td>
<td>pp.239-260</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Final Paper due:</strong> Please see the Assignment Tab on E-Campus</td>
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<td>December 8-12</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam:</strong> See the Assignment Tab For Exam</td>
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