PHILOSOPHY 2306 – ETHICS
Cedar Valley College

GENERAL INFORMATION
College Name Cedar Valley College
Division Liberal Arts
Semester/Term & Year Summer 1 in 2012

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
Name DR. CHRISTINA M. TOMCZAK
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Office Number C218

COURSE INFORMATION
Course Number PHIL 2306
Section Number 3420
Credit Hours 3
Course Title Ethics

Course Description
The course includes 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. (3 Lec.)

Course Prerequisites: One of the following must be met: (1) Developmental Reading 0093 AND Developmental Writing 0093; (2) English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 AND 0054; or (3) Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Reading and Writing standards.

Required Textbooks

ecampus access: Course management- weekly assignments, grades, syllabus and assignment instructions along with the syllabus are maintained on ecampus managed by the DCCCD LeCroy Center.

General Education Competencies (DCCCD Intellectual Competencies)
This course reinforces some of the Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
1. **READING**: Reading at the college level means the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials—book, article and documents.

2. **WRITING**: Competency in writing is the ability to produce clear, correct and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and audience.

3. **CRITICAL THINKING**: Critical thinking embraces methods of applying both qualitative and quantitative skills analytically and creatively to subject matter in order to evaluate arguments and to construct alternative strategies. Problem solving is one of the applications of critical thinking, used to address and identified task.

4. **COMMUNICATION**: To develop skills in oral, visual, and written communication.

**Student Learning Outcomes**  During this course you will be able to:

1. Apply critical thinking skills by explaining and assessing strengths and weaknesses of a philosophical position or theory.

2. Argue for informed answers to selected philosophical questions.

3. Research complex issues, synthesize data and present conclusions about issues.

Throughout the course you will find that an open mind that researches and listens is a key requirement for good discussion and analysis of issues.

**Exams and Assignments**

There are a number of assignments and tools used to measure student learning. These will include quizzes about reading assignments, various reflection assignments, participation in Discussion Board Assignments, research assignments and a final exam.

**Grading Scale**  90 percent of total points possible will result in an A; 80% of the total will result in a B; 70% of the total possible will result in a C; 60% of total will result in a D. Below 60% = F

**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 June 27 2012. 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. See institutional policies for additional information on withdrawals.

**Attendance Policy:** You are expected to attend regularly in all discussion board assignments as well as all assignments.

Let me know promptly of any situations that may cause a temporary absence from the class so that arrangements can be discussed. Excessive absences, i.e. from more than 2 weeks of class work can results in a failure for the class.

**Online Etiquette:** It is important to work and respond courteously to each other in the course. Do no “flame” anyone, disrespect opinions other than your own, or otherwise cause embarrassment or and uncomfortable situation for anyone.

**Course Outline:** Topics considered in this course include fundamental theories in ethics as well as issues of equality and discrimination, economic justice, legal punishment, environmental ethics stem cell research and genetic engineering, violence, terrorism and war, and globalization and immigration policies.

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**QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN**
Cedar Valley College's Quality Enhancement Plan is designed to improve student learning in mathematics. Read more about our QEP at: [www.cedarvalleycollege.edu/QEP](http://www.cedarvalleycollege.edu/QEP)

**Professor Biography:**

I begin by helping you with pronunciation of my last name, the “c” is silent, and so it is pronounced like Tomzak. My experience as an Instructor at Cedar Valley College began in 1998. I also serve as an Adjunct Instructor at Dallas Baptist University. My Bachelors degree in Business is from Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida, which also makes me an avid fan of Florida State Seminole sports. The Bachelors degree led to a 25-year career in Banking and Finance, first with the Federal Reserve System and then later with the largest banking organization in Florida. Next I gained a Masters of Divinity Degree and a Doctorate at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.
After 25 years in banking, I made a career change to education and became a Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Cedar Valley College. I live in Grapevine and besides being a sports fan enjoy gardening, swimming, and travel. I am an avid reader of mystery/suspense novels, historical fiction, classic novels and newspapers, two a day. I closely follow national and world events that affect our potential and opportunities do make a difference.

Also, I am an avid sports fan of FLORIDA STATE Seminoles in all sports. Presently they are playing in the NCAA 2010 Super Regional beginning June 1. Also, I have become a big fan of the cool Texas Rangers, the Cowboys, and Mavs. The Rangers have truly captured my support and loyalty as they are such a classy bunch of nice guys who exhibit such good team spirit and personal qualities.

INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES

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. The DCCCD policy is explicit and shown on the District web site in our college catalogs. It defines plagiarism, and collusion which are coming violations of this policy.

In addition, students should be aware that due to the nature of this course and the emphases of studies in philosophy any violation of this policy will result in failure in the COURSE regardless of how many points they have earned in the course.

ADA Statement

If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the college Disability Services Office at 972-860-8119.

Emergency Alert

Sign up for DCCCD Emergency Alerts to receive a text-message, e-mail and/or phone call when there is an unscheduled evacuation or closure of a DCCCD campus or office because of weather closures, utility outages, police or other emergencies. Subscribing is free, but standard text message charges from your cell phone provider will apply. Please refer to: http://www.dcccd.edu/current%20students/student%20services/emergalerts/Pages/default.aspx

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
students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

Health Center Services

- Basic first aid for minor cuts, scrapes, insect stings, and heat, etc.
- Over-the-counter medications for headaches, fever, seasonal allergies, and colds
- Over-the-counter medications for mild allergic reactions
- Emergency sanitary pads
- Blood Pressure check
- Coordination with outside health agencies such as Carter Blood Care; Dallas County Health Dept. (HIV/STD testing--free, twice a semester); UT Southwestern mobile mammography; Immunizations once a month for children <19 y.o. from the DCDHHS; Agape Massage; and Employee Wellness Screening
- Rest area for stress relief, migraine headaches, post seizure activity
- AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) for CPR
- Confidential "talks"
- Assists with health related club activities when asked and time permits

Honors Credit Availability

You can earn Honors Credit in this course that will show the completion of an Honors Course on your transcript. Honors credit is important in transfer evaluation for graduation with both Associates and Bachelor degrees with honors. To gain Honors credit for this course you will need to:

1. Demonstrate advanced writing skills through synthesis and original thought in expanded writing projects, research papers, and critical essays. This will entail a minimum of ten pages of writing. You will be asked to read primary sources readings besides the textbook
2. Participate in an outside class activity by attending a lecture, exhibit or program outside of the class activities
3. You will practice your oral presentation skills with a 10-minute presentation to the class about a topic that you have researched

To qualify for Honors credit, you must sign an Honors Contract at the beginning of the semester. Meet with me to design your program and complete the contract early in the semester. Finally, you must earn an A or B in the course in order to receive Honors Credit.
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.

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/oepthird_attempt.cfm

Student Code of Conduct

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/cat1011/cattoc.cfm.

Note, in addition, that committing an act of academic dishonesty will result in failing this course regardless of the total points earned under the evaluation criteria.

Cheating includes: (1) copying from another student’s paper; (2) using unauthorized materials during a test; (3) collaborating with or seeking help from another student during a test or quiz or during the grading of a quiz; (3) collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test (3) buying, selling, stealing or soliciting any part of or a whole test; (4) transporting or removing part of or a whole test before it is administered; and (5) other violations specified in the Student Code of Conduct.

Plagiarism is the appropriating, buying receiving as a gift or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work. Students must be CAUTIOUS when using material from books, magazine, or even the Internet to cite the source of information. On any essays, reports or research papers, the student MUST offer proper citations for information quoted or included from another printed or Internet source. Failure to do so is a violation of this policy and will result in failing the course.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements. Any collusion in preparation of essays or reports assigned for this class is a violation of this policy. Students are allowed to discuss their assignments and should freely do so. Copying, duplicating, or completing work for another student, however, is collusion and a violation of this policy.

The Student Code of Conduct is applicable to all activities related to this course.

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 more information, you may access: https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedops

Tutoring Services
We have a tutoring center for all students that you can access even online night and day. Open times are posted at the Center in Building C on the second floor.

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