COURSE SYLLABUS
Dr. Michele Svatos, Phil 2306 Ethics
Spring 2015 Online
Eastfield College
Social Science, Human Services & Business Division

Instructor & contact information: Dr. Michele Svatos
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Office hours: TBA on eCampus. I mostly work from home, and my office hours are held online.

Required Text:

Course Description:
PHIL 2306 Ethics (3) This is a Texas Common Course Number. The systematic evaluation of classical and/or contemporary ethical theories concerning the good life, human conduct in society, morals, and standards of value. (3 Lec.)

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

Goals:
• Introduce major philosophers and moral controversies
• Develop some familiarity with the philosophical writings on which they are based
• Foster a lifelong appreciation for philosophical thinking and moral reasoning

As a result of successfully completing this course, students will be able to:
• Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts
• Define and appropriately use important terms such as relativism, virtue, duty, rights, utilitarianism, natural law, egoism, altruism, autonomy, and care ethics
• Demonstrate knowledge of major arguments and problems in ethics
• Present and discuss well-reasoned ethical positions in writing
• Apply ethical concepts and principles to address moral concerns
• Apply course material to various aspects of life
• Discuss ways of living responsibly in a world where people have diverse ethical beliefs

Structure:
You never need to come to campus. You do not need to be online at any particular time or on any particular day; you just need to meet the deadlines. Students will read 10 chapters in the textbook, taking practice quizzes and a test corresponding to each chapter. All tests are taken online and are timed. They are open
book. Students may prepare for the online tests by taking a series of practice quizzes, also available online, as well as through dialogue with the instructor and other students on the Discussion Board. The practice quizzes do not affect your grade. There is a term paper and a short writing assignment.

Discussion is encouraged but not required or graded. However, there are built-in discussion opportunities with specific questions. Doing 3 of them, and doing them well, will help your grade in certain situations; for example, if you are requesting to make up a missed test (when you didn’t request an extension in advance), retake a test, or if you are very close to the next grade up at the end of the course. More details are available in Blackboard.

Requirements:
You may complete the course as quickly as you like. There are assignment deadlines, however.
- If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or loans and are enrolled in a Distance Learning class, you must show participation in this class prior to the certification date. See the deadlines button.
- All work must be done through eCampus, including the submission of the term paper. Emailed papers will not be accepted.
- You will need a password for the orientation quiz, and if applicable the ch. 1 retest. See those areas for explanations of how to get the passwords.

Grading:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Chapter Tests, 70 pts ea</td>
<td>700 pts</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Writing Assignment</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>200 pts</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1000 pts</td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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The book consists of 9 chapters on moral theory, and 11 chapters on applied ethical issues. If your book does not have that many chapters, you have the wrong book or edition.

You will read the first five chapters on moral theory, and then you will choose 5 additional chapters from ch 10-20 on applied ethical issues. That makes a total of 10 chapters. If you do more than 5 of the choice chapter exams, I will not count the latest one(s) done past the 5th choice chapter exam that you took.

For each chapter, you will have 3 "free" practice quizzes which do not count for or against your grade although they show up in the gradebook, and 1 test worth 70 pts. 70 x 10 = 700. You will also have a term paper worth 200 points, and a short writing assignment worth 100 pts. 700 + 200 + 100 = 1000 = total points for the course. 900 = A, 800 = B, 700 = C, 600 = D, 599 or less = F.
Incompletes:
Incompletes are only given in situations where a student has a documented, extended emergency such as an extended hospitalization or deployment. They will not be given simply because a student needs more time or has missed deadlines. In order to qualify for an incomplete, the student must have completed over half of the coursework, and must have a passing average on the completed work.

Academic Honesty Statement:
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 at http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism and collusion. Cheating includes copying from another student’s test or homework paper, using materials not authorized, collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test, knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, or soliciting the contents of an unadministered test, and substituting for another person to take a test. 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. Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense in college. You can be given a failing grade on an assignment or test, can be failed for the class, or you can even be suspended from college.

In this course, any instance of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of 0 for the assignment. While such instance may result in a course grade of F, additional academic dishonesty will result in a course grade of F. If you have questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty, see the term paper instructions, the Student Handbook at www.dcccd.edu, and/or ask me for clarification.

In this course, any instance of academic dishonesty will result in, at best, a grade of 0 for the assignment. Flagrant plagiarism may result in an automatic failing grade for the course. Flagrant plagiarism includes using an essay for sale or free essays site, or turning in someone else’s paper as your own. Repeated plagiarism within the course (this is, plagiarism on more than one assignment, including discussion board posts) will result in a failing grade for the course. If you have questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty, see the term paper instructions, the Student Handbook at www.dcccd.edu and/or ask me for clarification.

ADA Statement:
Students with a physical, mental or learning disability who require accommodations should contact the college Disability Services Office in C237. Call 972.860.8348 or email efcdso@dcccd.edu. For more information: http://www.eastfieldcollege.edu/SSI/DSO/index.html

Religious Holidays:
Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. Notification of the absence must be given to the instructor in writing at least two weeks prior to the date of the holy day. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to contract with the instructor to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within at a mutually agreed upon time after the absence.

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 the date listed in your online classroom under the Deadlines button. 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. For more information about drop deadlines, refer to the current printed Credit Class Schedule, contact the Admissions/Registrar’s Office at 972-860-7167 (Room C119), or contact the division office.
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 6 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 6 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/coursedrops

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA):
In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the College may
release information classified as “directory information” to the general public without the written consent of
the student. Directory information includes: (1) student name, (2) student address, (3) telephone
numbers, (4) date and place of birth, (5) weight and height of members of athletic teams, (6) participation
in officially recognized activities and sports, (7) dates of attendance, (8) educational institution most
recently attended, and (9) other similar information, including major field of student and degrees and
awards received. Students may protect their directory information at any time during the academic year.
If no request is filed, directory information is released upon written inquiry. No telephone inquiries are
acknowledged. No transcript or academic record is released without written consent from the student,
except as specified by law.

ADA Statement:
Students with a physical, mental or learning disability who require accommodations should contact the
college Disability Services Office in C237. Call 972.860.8348 or email efcdso@dcccd.edu. For more
information: http://www.eastfieldcollege.edu/SSI/DSO/index.html

Obtaining Final Course Grades Using eConnect:
Final Grade Reports are no longer mailed. Convenient access is available online at
www.econnect.dcccd.edu. Use your identification number when you log onto eConnect, an online system
developed by the DCCCD to provide you with timely information regarding your college record. Your
grades will also be printed on your Student Advising Report, which is available in the Admissions Office.

Eastfield College Email Policy:
Faculty and students must have and use a DCCCD account for all correspondence relating to academic
coursework. For information on setting up a DCCCD student email account go to:
http://www.dcccd.edu/netmail/home.html

Financial Aid Statement:
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.

Financial Aid Statement for Distance Learning Classes:
If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or loans and are enrolled in a Distance Learning class, you
must show participation in this class prior to the certification date by either e-mailing or contacting the
instructor or logging on to eCampus. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the
Financial Aid Office. Changes in your enrollment level and failing grades may require that you repay
financial aid funds.

Repeating This Course: (Third Attempt to Enroll in a 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. All third and subsequent attempts of the
majority of credit and Continuing Education/Workforce Training courses will result in additional tuition to be charged. Developmental Studies and some other courses will not be charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 Semester. See Third Attempt to Enroll in a Course at: http://www.dcccd.edu/thirdcourseattempt

Objectives and Competencies

Philosophy 2306 is a part of the Core Curriculum and addresses the following Exemplary Educational Objectives and Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies as set forth below by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:

Exemplary Educational Objectives in Social and Behavioral Sciences
The objective of a social and behavioral science component of a core curriculum is to increase student’s knowledge of how social and behavioral scientists discover, describe, and explain the behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and ideas. Such knowledge will better equip students to understand themselves and the roles they play in addressing the issues facing humanity. Therefore, the exemplary educational objectives for this class are:

1. To employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. To examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures, and cultures.
3. To use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. To develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
5. To analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the areas under study.
6. To comprehend the origins and evolution of U.S. and Texas political systems, with a focus on the growth of political institutions, the constitutions of the U.S. and Texas, federalism, civil liberties, and civil and human rights.
7. To understand the evolution and current role of the U.S. in the world.
8. To differentiate and analyze historical evidence (documentary and statistical) and differing points of view.
9. To recognize and apply reasonable criteria for the acceptability of historical evidence and social research.
10. To analyze, critically assess, and develop creative solutions to public policy problems.
11. To recognize and assume one’s responsibility as a citizen in a democratic society by learning to think for oneself, by engaging in public discourse, and by obtaining information through the news media and other appropriate information sources about politics and public policy.
12. To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.

Exemplary Educational Objectives in Philosophy

1. To demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. To understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. To respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. To articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
5. To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts on intercultural experiences.

Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies

1. Reading—the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials (books, documents, and articles)—above 12th grade level.
2. Writing—the ability to produce clear, correct and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and audience—above 12th grade level.
3. Speaking—the ability to communicate orally in clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience—above 12th grade level.

4. Listening—analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication, possess sufficient literacy skills of writing, reading—above 12th grade level.

5. Critical Thinking—think and analyze at a critical level.

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