Syllabus for Philosophy 2306: Ethics  
Brookhaven College  
Social Science  
Spring 2018  
Dr. Jerrod Scott

Course Description
PHIL2306: Ethics 22402  
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.)
Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 3801015335
Prerequisites: Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in reading.

Instructor:
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Required Materials:
The materials you need for this course are 100% online. I have developed a course through software called “MindTap.” To access the course material click the link below:
https://studentdashboard.cengagebrain.com/#/course-confirmation/MTPPKM5PB84P/initial-course-confirmation

Once you go to this website, follow the instructions to register for our class. The cost is $80….which includes access to the text online (You can print any part or all of it if you want a hard copy to read. In fact, for $19.95 more, they will mail you an actual loose leaf copy of the book.)

If you have registered for MindTap before, the course code for this course is: MTPP-KM5P-B84P

The course materials online includes a copy of the text. The exams, text and practice exercises are all within the site online.

You have a grace period within which you do not need to pay. But you must pay by that date to complete the course. This is instead of paying for an actual text (which is $180 new).

Course Objectives & Goals:
This course will explore several moral issues which have social importance. We will begin with an introduction to the main metaethical theories (“Normative” Ethics). Then, applying these metaethical theories, we will explore several real moral issues (“Applied” Ethics).

PHIL 2306 is included in the DCCCD Core Curriculum. This course provides students with the opportunity to develop the Core Curriculum Objectives of communication, personal responsibility, social responsibility and critical thinking fundamental to all DCCCD Core Curriculum courses.

Core Curriculum Objectives
PHIL 2306 satisfies the following Core Objectives defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:

**Critical Thinking Skills** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.

**Communication Skills** - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.

**Social Responsibility**: - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

**Personal Responsibility** - to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.

**PHIL 2306 Learning Outcomes**

PHIL 2306 learning outcomes describe the goals for all PHIL 2306 courses at Brookhaven College. These outcomes address the Core Objectives. Upon completion of PHIL 2306, students will:

1. Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts.
2. Define and appropriately use important terms such as relativism, virtue, duty, rights, utilitarianism, natural law, egoism, altruism, autonomy, and care ethics.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of major arguments and problems in ethics.
4. Present and discuss well-reasoned ethical positions in writing.
5. Apply ethical concepts and principles to address moral concerns.
6. Apply course material to various aspects of life.
7. Discuss ways of living responsibly in a world where people have diverse ethical beliefs.

**Course Requirements:**

It is very important that you take the time to read and study every day. You must have the discipline to work steadily and smartly through the material. Read the chapters, read the articles at the end of the chapters, and use the resources available in MindTap.

Your grade will be the result of 3 elements: exams, discussion posts and an essay.

1. **Exams**: You will have seven exams (see the schedule below for the dates). The first exam will cover the syllabus. This first exam will be in ecampus. The remaining six exams will cover material from the text and will be located in MindTap.
   - **Exam One (covers the syllabus)** = 10 points
   - **Exam Two (covers chapters 1, 2, 3 and 5)** = 20 points
   - **Exam Three (covers chapters 6, 7, 8 and 14)** = 20 points
   - **Exam Four (covers chapters 13 and 20)** = 10 points
   - **Exam Five (covers chapters 10, 11, 12 and 18)** = 20 points
   - **Exam Six (covers chapters 15 and 19)** = 10 points
   - **Exam Seven (covers chapters 16 and 17)** = 10 points

   Total points for exams=100

2. **Discussion Posts**: There are seven discussion board posts that must be done on ecampus. The post should be around 300 words. Your post should be well written and display a command of the relevant material from the text/class. I will grade these based on the cogency of your arguments, the recognition of and reply to an opposing view, the organization of your arguments and grammar/spelling. For full credit, you must also post a reply to someone else’s post. The reply must also be well written, contain critical thought and show a command of the relevant material from the text.

3. **Papers**: At the end of the semester you will write a longer essay (approximately 1000
words). In the paper it is important that you defend your position, explain the relevant material, and give a thorough explanation and evaluation of an opposing view. What position you defend is not relevant to the grade….what is relevant is your analysis and depth of knowledge. The appendix to your text is a chapter on “how to write an ethics paper.” I highly recommend you read this before writing your papers.

Each chapter has “APLIA” assignments. These are optional, but they are very good study guides. I would do these problems before attempting the exam the covers those chapters. You will not be graded on these, so you do not need to do them…..but they will help you.

Grading:
The discussion posts are each worth 10 points, there are 7 of these, so 70 points total. The essay is worth 20 points. The exams are worth a total of 100 points (the breakdown of each exam and its point value is above). All together, there are 190 points you could earn. **I do not curve grades:**

171-190= A
152-170= B
133-151= C
114-132= D
113 and below= F

Attendance Policy:
I do not count attendance as part of your grade.

Make-Up Quizzes & Exams:
I do not accept late work. There will be no credit given for work turned in after the deadline has passed for an assignment. Each assignment will be open for several days. If you wait until the final minute and then have a problem, you should not have waited. I would recommend you turn work in early….to allow for the possibility that something could go wrong (with Blackboard, MindTap, your system…..). **Remember, poor planning on your part does not constitute an emergency on my part.**

All college and district policies can be read at: [https://www.Brookhavencollege.edu/syllabusaddendum](https://www.Brookhavencollege.edu/syllabusaddendum)

No food or drink is allowed in the classroom (not relevant for online courses).

Cell phones are no longer allowed in the Testing Center, and should be turned off while in the classroom (this class does not use the testing center, so this is irrelevant for this class).

The instructor has the right to add, delete, or revise segments of this course or syllabus.

December 22 is the drop date.

**Assignment Schedule**
All ecampus and MindTap assignments are due BEFORE 11pm on the due date. Beside the dates you will see either an (e) or an (m). The (e) means the assignment is found and to be turned in on ecampus. The (m) means that the assignment is found and to be completed in MindTap.

(e) Dec.12   Exam One (over the syllabus)

(e) Dec.14   Discussion Board #1 (after reading chapters 1 and 2). Your post must be submitted BEFORE 11pm. Anything submitted AT or AFTER 11pm is late and will be given a 0 (this is true for all discussion boards).

Reply to someone else’s discussion post #1. You must read at least one other person’s post and write a cogent reply…..again this must be submitted BEFORE 11pm.

(e)(m) Dec.17  Discussion Board #2 plus reply (after reading chapters 3 and 5); before 11pm. Exam #2 over chapters 1, 2, 3 and 5 (this is on MindTap)

(e)(m) Dec.21  Exam Three (over chapters 6, 7, 8 and 14); Discussion Board #3 plus reply; before 11pm

(e) Dec.23  Discussion Board #4 with reply (after reading chapter 13); before 11pm

(m) Dec.24  Exam Four (over chapters 13 and 20)

(e) Dec.26  Discussion Board #5 plus reply (after reading chapter 12); before 11pm

(e)(m) Dec.29  Discussion Board #6 plus reply (after reading chapter 18); Exam Five (over chapters 10, 11, 12 and 18); before 11pm

(m) Jan.1   Exam Six (over chapters 15 and 19); before 11pm

(e) Jan.3   Discussion Board #7 plus reply (after reading chapters 16 and 17); before 11pm

(m) Jan.4   Exam Seven (over chapters 16 and 17); before 11pm....Essay due

Students will be able to retrieve their grades on-line through the Internet on DCCCD eConnect web-site at http://econnect.dcccd.edu. Students who do not have Internet access at home or work may also access their grades by using drop-in computer labs at various college locations. Students must select the Student Menu, click on My Personal Info. And scroll down to My grades. Students may request official academic transcripts free of charge at the Admissions Office. Student advising reports (an unofficial document, which includes a history of their DCCCD coursework, grades, GPA, and academic standing) are also available from both the Academic Advising Office and the Admissions Office.