

PHIL 2380* INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS

CRN: 34032
Academic Term: Fall 2012
Schedule: Mon/Wed 6:05-7:30
Classroom: Southam Hall Theatre B
WebCT: <http://lms.carleton.ca>

Instructor: Michael Kocsis
Office: Room 329, Floor 3 Paterson Hall
Email: Michael.Kocsis@carleton.ca
Office Hours: Wednesday 4-5 (by appointment also)

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the field of environmental ethics. We will discuss current environmental issues such as animal rights, vegetarianism, sustainability, resource stewardship, and environmental radicalism. We will reflect on major questions that environmental ethics asks in a distinctive way, for example; how should we view our relationship with nature? Should animals have rights? Should ecosystems? Is responsible stewardship compatible with today's technology? Should future generations be protected from present-day societies? Questions like these can sometimes leave us feeling frustrated, conflicted, or unwilling to engage with the others in a constructive discussion. Our goal in this course is to see if environmental ethics offers new ways to make progress.

Evaluation

The course includes two in-class tests and a final examination, held during the exam period. Review questions will be posted prior to tests and exams on WebCT.

- 30% - Test #1** **Monday October 1st @ 6:05pm**
 - 30% - Test #2** **Monday November 5th @ 6:05pm**
 - 40% - Final Exam** **Scheduled by Carleton (Exam period: Dec. 6-19th)**
- ✓ Check WebCT one week prior to tests and exams for *Review Questions*

Textbooks and Resources

There is one required text. It is a "course reader," available for purchase at Haven Books (Seneca St @ Sunnyside). You will benefit from reading the assigned material before lectures. Our WebCT webpage (<http://lms.carleton.ca>) posts the class reading schedule, announcements and other resources.

Accessibility for Students with Specific Needs

Carleton is committed to ensuring that information and resources are fully accessible. Services for students with disabilities are provided by the *Paul Menton Centre*. Students should contact the centre in order to receive assistance and accommodations. (501 University Centre; tel: 520-6608; email: pmc@carleton.ca; web: <http://www.carleton.ca/pmc>).

Statement on Academic Integrity

All course work deemed to be in violation of Carleton's policies on academic dishonesty will be handled according to the procedures and penalties affirmed by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of "academic dishonesty" as defined in the Calendar and to avoid both committing academic dishonesty and aiding academic dishonesty by other students. For information see: <http://www.carleton.ca/cu0607uc/regulations/acadregsuniv14.html>

Writing Tutorial Service

Those feeling apprehensive about essay writing might consider contacting the *Writing Tutorial Service*. They provide tutorials and workshops throughout the term. You may also consider the suggestions contained in a supplementary text such as the following;

- Joel Feinberg (2008) *Doing Philosophy: A Guide to the Writing of Philosophy Papers 3 Edition* (Thomson/Wadsworth).
 - Zachary Seech (1999) *Writing Philosophy Papers 3 Edition* (Wadsworth).
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PHIL 2380 FALL TERM READING SCHEDULE

1. Mon. Sept. 10th
 - Introduction to Environmental Ethics
2. Wed. Sept. 12th
 - George Orwell, "Shooting an Elephant"
 - Michael Allen Fox, "Arguments for Vegetarianism"
3. Mon. September 17th
 - from *The Epic of Gilgamesh*
 - Aristotle, from *Physics, On the Soul and Politics*
 - from *The Book of Genesis*
4. Wed. Sept. 19th
 - St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Contra Gentiles* and *Summa Theologica*
 - St. Francis of Assisi, *Life of St. Francis*
 - White, "Historical Roots of our Ecological Crisis"
5. Mon. Sept. 24th
 - **VIDEO:** "*The Promise of the Land*"(1987)
6. Wed. Sept. 26th
 - John Locke, "The Creation of Property"
 - Garrett Hardin, "The Tragedy of the Commons"
 - George Monbiot, "The Tragedy of Enclosure"
7. Mon. Oct. 1st
 - ✓ **IN-CLASS TEST #1 (6:05pm)**
8. Wed. Oct. 3rd
 - Peter Singer, "All Animals are Equal"
9. Mon. Oct. 8th **CLASS CANCELLED**
10. Wed. Oct. 10th
 - Regan, "The Case for Animal Rights"
 - Kant, "Duties to Animals"
11. Mon. Oct. 15th
 - Paul Taylor, "The Ethics of Respect for Nature"
12. Wed. Oct. 17th
 - **VIDEO:** "*Learning from Ladakh*"(1993)
13. Mon. October 22nd
 - Aldo Leopold, from *The Land Ethic*
14. Wed. Oct. 24th
 - Rachel Carson, from *Silent Spring*
 - Henry David Thoreau, from *Walking*
15. Mon. Oct. 29th
 - Devall & Sessions, *Deep Ecology*
16. Wed. Oct. 31st
 - Murray Bookchin, *What is Social Ecology?*
 - Murray Bookchin, *Social Ecology versus Deep Ecology*
17. Mon. Nov. 5th
 - ✓ **IN-CLASS TEST #2 (6:05)**
18. Wed. Nov. 7th
 - Warren, *The Power and Promise of Ecological Feminism*
 - Merchant, *Ecofeminism and Feminist Theory*
19. Mon. Nov. 12th
 - **VIDEO:** "*The Refugees of the Blue Planet*"(2006)
20. Wed. Nov. 14th
 - Mary Midgeley, *Duties toward Islands*
21. Mon. Nov. 19th
 - Callicott, *Ojibwa Worldview and Environmental Ethic*
 - Silva, *The Buddhist Attitude toward Nature*
22. Wed. Nov. 21st
 - Thomas Malthus, from *An Essay on Population*
 - William Godwin, from *On Population*
 - Joel Fienberg, "Future Generations"
23. Mon. Nov. 26th
 - Dave Foreman, "Strategic Monkeywrenching"
 - Paul Watson, "Tora! Tora! Tora!"
24. Wed. Nov. 28th
 - Andrew Light, "Taking Environmentalism Public"
 - James Sterba, "Reconciling Anthropocentric and Nonanthropocentric Environmental Ethics"
25. Mon. Dec. 3rd
 - Course Overview and Conclusions
 - Final exam review + preparations

Carleton Exam Period → December 6-19th

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (2012-13)

Assignments:

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips
- must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box)
- must include the following in the lower right corner of the cover sheet:
 - student name
 - student number
 - course number and section
 - instructor's name
- The Philosophy Department does not accept assignments by FAX. You may send them by courier, if necessary.
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates in next column.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by **4:15** on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

Deferrals for Term Work:

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a final assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral of examination/assignment. For deferred examinations, you must apply within 5 working days after the scheduled date of your exam. To apply for deferral of a final assignment, you must apply within 5 working days of the last scheduled day of classes. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information.

Plagiarism:

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of 'plagiarism' as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. (Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations, section 14.3, or <http://www4.carleton.ca/calendars//ugrad/current/regulations/acadregsuniv14.html#14.3>)

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation>.

Important Dates:

Sept. 6	Classes start (after Orientation events).
Sept. 19	Last day for registration and course changes in Fall and Fall/Winter courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from Fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 5	University Day – no classes.
Oct. 8	Thanksgiving Day – university closed.
Nov. 19	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Dec. 3	Last day of classes, Fall term. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for Fall term courses.
Dec. 3	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec. 4-5	No classes take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Dec. 6-19	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
Dec. 20	Take-home exams are due.
Jan. 7	Winter term classes begin.
Jan. 18	Last day for registration and course changes in Winter term classes.
Jan. 31	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter courses or winter portion of two-term courses.
Feb. 18	Family Day – university closed
Feb. 18-22	Winter Break, classes suspended.
Mar. 27	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Mar. 29	Good Friday – university closed
Apr. 10	Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter term classes. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for Fall/Winter and Winter term courses. NOTE: On this day all classes follow a Friday schedule.
Apr. 10	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr. 11-12	No classes take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Apr. 13-27	Final Examinations.
Apr. 27	Take-home exams are due.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A46 Paterson Hall www.carleton.ca/philosophy 520-2110
Registrar's Office:	300 Tory www.carleton.ca/registrar 520-3500
Student Academic Success Centre:	302 Tory www.carleton.ca/sasc 520-7850
Paul Menton Centre:	500 University Centre www.carleton.ca/pmc 520-6608
Writing Tutorial Service:	4 th Floor, Library www.carleton.ca/wts 520-6632
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735