

Carleton University
Department of Philosophy

COURSE OUTLINE
PHIL 1550A FALL 2013

Introduction to Ethics and Social Issues
(CRN 33990)

Lecture Location: Minto Centre 2000
Lecture Times: Wednesdays and Fridays, 1:05 - 2:25 p.m.
Instructor: Dr. Diane Huberman Arnold
E-Mail: huberman.arnold@gmail.com
Office: Paterson Hall 329 B
Office Hours: Fridays 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Course Description:

An introduction to understanding, assessing and formulating ethical arguments concerning controversial issues. Each session will focus on a class discussion of one major issue. This term, the issues studied will be abortion, affirmative action, animal rights, capital punishment, cloning, euthanasia, immigration, pornography, privacy and civil society, environmental issues, and world hunger.

[Precludes additional credit for FYSM 1209 and PHIL 1500]

Learning Objectives:

- As a course in Philosophy, one of the objectives is to give you the knowledge to understand the issues, problems and arguments discussed.
- A second objective is to give you the practical reasoning skills, to enable you to deal with all the issues and problems discussed, and to increase sensitivity to ethical issues.
- The third objective is to deal with the currency and relevance of ethical and social issues, as they impact on life and work.

Text Book:

Contemporary Debates in Applied Ethics. Blackwell Publishing, 2005. ISBN: 978-1-4051-548-3 Edited by Andrew I. Cohen and Christopher Heath Wellman. (in Carleton Bookstore and on Reserve in Library)

Class handouts, and documents posted on CULearn

Grading and Evaluation:

- (a) Instead of a final exam, there will **three tests**, covering all readings, all lectures and all class discussions. They will be taken in class, scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, October 2nd (worth 15 % of your grade)

Wednesday, October 30th (worth 15 % of your grade)

Friday, November 22nd (worth 20 % of your grade)

A **make-up test** may be possible, with written documentation of illness. Such a make-up test will be given at a set time schedule (so one opportunity only) and may cover other material, and will be more difficult than the original.

- (b) You will write **three short essays**, two to three page position papers on the issues being discussed in class, before the topic is scheduled. These will be original pieces of work, without research; **no plagiarism**. They are to be typed, one side of page only, double-spaced, with a cover page, stapled together in top left corner. [HINT: See Abbreviations sheet on CULearn.] **Each will be worth 15% of your grade.**
NO late papers will be accepted.
Each of these must be handed in to me, at the start of class, on the due date. No faxed or emailed papers will be accepted. No drop box can be used.

These will be due as follows:

Wednesday, October 9th

Wednesday, November 6th

Friday, November 29th

- (c) There will be five pop quizzes, in class, during the term, worth 1 % each. There are **NO make-ups possible**. If you do not attend class and do not take the pop quiz at that time, you get a zero for that quiz.

Total: tests, papers, and quizzes = 100 %

Course Requirements:

The topics will be taken up in class, as the following schedule indicates. Class lectures and discussions will do much more than cover the relevant section of the text book. You are responsible for all class material and all discussions.

Class attendance is required. Class attendance is the best predictor for getting through a course, and for doing well in a course.

There are no classes on Friday, Oct. 11th, and Friday, Nov. 1st.

Course Schedule:

Session	Text Topic	Text Readings
1/2 Sept. 6 and 11	Introduction learning about ethical theories and arguments.	Class outline and text introduction, pp. 1-9
3/4 Sept. 13 and 18	Abortion	pp. 13-39
5/6 Sept. 20 and 25	Affirmative Action	pp. 43-74
7 Sept. 27	Pornography/Guest Lecture	pp. 223-250
8 October 2	Test One	
9/10 Oct. 4 and 9	Animal Rights	pp. 77-103
11/12 Oct. 16 and 18	Capital Punishment	pp. 107-138
13/14 Oct. 23 and 25	Euthanasia	pp. 161-190
15 October 30	Test Two	
16 Nov. 6	Immigration	pp. 193-220.
17/18 Nov. 8 and 13	Privacy and Civil Society	pp. 253-275 PLUS
19/20 Nov. 15 and 20	World Hunger	pp. 313-342 PLUS
21 Nov. 22	Test Three	
22/23 Nov. 27 and 29	Cloning etc.	pp. 141-158
24/25 Dec. 4 and 6	Values in Nature	pp. 279-309

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (2013-14)

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:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations 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*) at <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Important Dates:

Sept. 5	Classes start (after Orientation events).
Sept. 18	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. 11	University Day – no undergraduate classes.
Oct. 14	Thanksgiving Day – university closed.
Oct. 28 – Nov. 1	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 25	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Dec. 9	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. 9	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec. 10	No classes or examinations take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Dec. 11-22	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
Dec. 22	Take-home exams are due.
Jan. 6	Winter term classes begin.
Jan. 17	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. 17-21	Winter Break, classes suspended.
Mar. 25	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Apr. 8	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.
Apr. 8	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr. 9-10	No classes or examinations take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Apr. 11-26	Final Examinations. Exams will not be held Apr. 18-20.
Apr. 18	Good Friday – university closed.
Apr. 26	Take-home exams are due.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A35 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
Writing Tutorial Service:	4 th Floor, Library http://www1.carleton.ca/sasc/writing-tutorial-service/ 520-6632
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735