

PHIL 3380
Environments, Technologies, and Values
Winter 2018

Instructor: Josephine Nielsen
Office Hours: Tuesdays 12-2
Email: josephine.nielsen@carleton.ca
Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:05-11:25
Room: SA 318

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines advanced study of ethical issues concerning values and environments, including: biocentrism, ecocentrism/deep ecology, animal welfarism, economics and the environment, environmental virtue ethics, ecofeminism, Indigenous perspectives on the environment, population and consumption, climate change, and sustainability. The class is run as a lecture, but considerable student involvement is encouraged and expected.

CONDITIONS OF ENROLMENT

Prerequisite(s): PHIL 1804 or PHIL 2380 and third-year standing, or permission of the department.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Required Texts: All required articles will be posted on ARES and will be accessible through the MacOdrum library website.

Williston, Byron. (2016) *Environmental Ethics for Canadians*, Second Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Available at Haven Books.

COURSE EVALUATION

Reflections 20%

Students will be expected to pass in four reflection papers throughout the term. Each reflection paper is to be one to two pages, single spaced, and should respond to one of the readings for that week. Students should give a brief recap of the main argument of the paper and then reflect on the article. This must include an argument, and should *not* merely be an affirmation or rejection of the article. Reflection papers on a particular paper will *only* be accepted on the day that the reading is assigned for.

Midterm Exam 20%

Date: Feb 15

The midterm will test students' knowledge on the material covered in class and the material covered in the assigned readings.

Essay Proposal 10%

Date: March 1

Students will be required to write a three page essay proposal that outlines a thesis statement and the main argument that will be made in the essay. The essay proposal should also include three sources that were not assigned readings for the class that will be used as support in the essay. It should also be explained why these three outside sources are relevant to the essay that is to be written. The essay that is proposed should be connected to one of the topics that are addressed in the course.

The essay proposal should be three pages long, double spaced.

Essay 20%

Date: April 10

Students will be required to write a 2,500 word to 3,000 word, double spaced essay. This essay should be based on the essay proposal that was passed in on DATE and should be connected to one of the topics that are addressed in the course.

The essay is to be posted on CULearn by 11:55pm.

Take-Home Exam 30%

Date: TBA

The take-home exam will be assigned on the last day of classes. The exam will test students' knowledge on the material covered in class and the material covered in the assigned readings.

The take-home exam must be posted on CULearn by 11:55pm.

POLICIES

- The instructor will be available for discussion and questions in class, during office hours, and through email (both through josephine.nielsen@carleton.ca and through CULearn). That being said, please limit email questions to administrative questions.
- Extensions will not be granted except for under extenuating circumstances and with the proper documentation (e.g., a doctor's note). Reflections will not be accepted late under any circumstances and will only be accepted in class. The take-home exam cannot be passed in late. This is per university policy.
- Late papers will be deducted 3% per day (including weekend days). This means that a paper that originally relied an 82% will be deducted to a 79% if one day late.
- All grades will be given as percentages first and then converted to letter grades.
- The reading outlined in the syllabus may be changed throughout the term and should not be taken as definite.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Introduction and Syllabus

Jan 9 – Syllabus

Williston, Byron. (2016) "Introduction." In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 1-24.

Jan 11 – Williston, Byron. (2016) “Introduction.” In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 1-24.

Biocentrism

Suggested reading for the week:

Williston, Byron. (2016) “Biocentrism.” In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 49-73.

Jan 16 – Stone, C. (2010) “Should Trees Have Standing? – Toward Legal Rights for Natural Objects.” In *Should Trees Have Standing? Law, Morality, and the Environment*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press): 3-54.

Jan 18 – Taylor, P. (1981) “The Ethics of Respect for Nature.” *Environmental Ethics* 3(3): 197-218.

Ecocentrism and Deep Ecology

Suggested reading for the week:

Williston, Byron. (2016) “Ecocentrism and Deep Ecology.” In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 74-100.

Jan 23 – Leopold, A. (1949) “Conservation Esthetic.” In *A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

Leopold, A. (1949) “The Land Ethic.” in *A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

Jan 25 – Watson, R. (1983) “A Critique of Anti-Anthropocentric Biocentrism.” *Environmental Ethics* 5: 245-256.

Naess, A. (1984) “A Defence of the Deep Ecology Movement.” *Environmental Ethics* 6: 265-270.

Animal Welfarism

Suggested reading for the week:

Williston, Byron. (2016) “Animal Welfarism.” In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 26-48.

Jan 30 – Singer, P. (1989) “All Animals are Equal.” In Tom Regan and Peter Singer (eds) *Animal Rights and Human Obligations*. (New Jersey: Prentice-Hall): 148-162.

Sagoff, M. (1984) “Animal Liberation and Environmental Ethics: Bad Marriage. Quick Divorce.” *Osgoode Hall Law Journal* 22: 297-307.

Feb 1 – Donaldson, S., Kymlicka, W. (2014) “Animals and the Frontiers of Citizenship.” *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies* 34(2): 201-219.

Economics and the Environment

Suggested reading for the week:

Williston, Byron. (2016) “Economics and Ecology.” In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 101-125.

Feb 6 – Grove-White, R. (1997) “The Environmental ‘Valuation’ Controversy.” In John Foster (ed) *Valuing Nature? Economics, Ethics, and Environment*. (London: Routledge): 21-31.

Keat, R. (1997) “Values and Preferences in Neo-Classical Environmental Economics.” In John Foster (ed) *Valuing Nature? Economics, Ethics, and Environment*. (London: Routledge): 32-47.

Feb 8 – O’Neill, J. (1997) “Value Pluralism, Incommensurability and Institutions.” In John Foster (ed) *Valuing Nature? Economics, Ethics, and Environment*. (London: Routledge): 75-88

Economics and the Environment cont’d and Midterm

Feb 13 – Aldred, J. (1997) “Existence Value, Moral Commitments and In-Kind Valuation.” In John Foster (ed) *Valuing Nature? Economics, Ethics, and Environment*. (London: Routledge): 155-169.

Feb15 – Midterm

Feb 19-23 – Reading Week

Environmental Virtue Ethics

Suggested reading for the week:

Williston, Byron. (2016) “Environmental Virtue Ethics.” In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 234-259.

Feb 27 – Hill Jr., T. E. (1983) “Ideals of Human Excellence and Preserving Natural Environments.” *Environmental Ethics* 5(3): 211- 224.

Mar 1 – Sandler, R. L. ((2007) “The Environment and Human Flourishing.” In *Character and Environment: A Virtue-Oriented Approach to Environmental Ethics*. New York: Columbia University Press. pp. 39-62.

Ecofeminism

Suggested reading for the week:

Williston, Byron. (2016) "Ecofeminism." In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 152-177.

Mar 6 – Warren, K. (1990) "The Power and the Promise of Ecological Feminism." *Environmental Ethics* 12(2): 125-146.

Mar 8 – Warwick, F. (1989) "The Deep Ecology-Ecofeminism Debate and its Parallels." *Environmental Ethics* 11(1): 5-25.

Indigenous Perspectives on the Environment

Suggested reading for the week:

Williston, Byron. (2016) "First Nations' Perspectives." In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 206-233.

Mar 13 – Sioui, G. E. (1992) "The Sacred Circle of Life." In *For an Amerindian Autohistory*. Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press. pp. 8-19.

Mar 15 – Pierotti, R., D Wildcat. (2000) "Traditional Ecological Knowledge: The Third Alternative (Commentary)." *Ecological Applications* 10(5): 1333-1340.

Salmón, E. (2000) "Kincentric Ecology: Indigenous Perceptions of the Human-Nature Relationship." *Ecological Applications* 10(5): 1327-1332.

Population and Consumption

Suggested reading for the week:

Williston, Byron. (2016) "Population and Consumption." In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 317-341.

Mar 20 – Parfit, D. (1986) "The Non-Identity Problem." In *Reasons and Persons*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 381-390.

Parfit, D. (1986) "The Repugnant Conclusion." In *Reasons and Persons*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 381-390.

Mar 22 – Huseby, R. (2010) "Person-Affecting Moral Theory, Non-Identity and Future People." *Environmental Values* 19(2): 193-210.

Climate Change

Suggested reading for the week:

Williston, Byron. (2016) "Climate Change." In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 288-316.

Mar 27 – Broome, John. (2012) "The Public and Private Morality of Climate Change." *The Tanner Lecture on Human Values*.

Mar 29 – TBA

Sustainability

Suggested reading for the week:

Williston, Byron. (2016) "Sustainability." In *Environmental Ethics for Canadians, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 371-399.

Apr 3 – TBA

Apr 5 – TBA

Apr 10 – TBA

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2017-18)

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:
 - student name
 - student number
 - course number and section
 - instructor's name
- 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 Final Exams:

If you miss a final examination (formally scheduled or take-home) because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral. You must apply within 3 working days after the scheduled date of your formally scheduled exam or within 3 working days after the due date of a take-home exam. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information:

<http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv2/#2.5>

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. <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

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 your professor 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 your professor 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 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 your professor 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. 6	Classes start.
Sept. 19	Last day for registration and course changes for Fall term and Fall/Winter (two-term) courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from Fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 9	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Oct. 23-27	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 24	Last day for summative or final examinations in Fall term courses before the official examination period.
Dec. 8	Last day of Fall term classes. Classes follow a Monday schedule. Last day for academic withdrawal from Fall term courses. 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 a Fall term course.
Dec. 10-22	Final examinations for Fall term courses and mid-term examinations in two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Dec. 22	All take-home examinations are due.
Jan. 8	Classes begin.
Jan. 19	Last day for registration and course changes in the Winter term.
Jan. 31	Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from Winter term courses or from the Winter portion of two-term courses.
Feb. 19	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Feb. 19-23	Winter Break – no classes.
Mar. 27	Last day for summative or final examinations in Winter term or two-term courses before the official examination period.
Mar. 30	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Apr. 11	Last day of two-term and Winter term classes. Classes follow a Friday schedule. Last day for academic withdrawal from Fall/Winter and Winter courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for two-term and for Winter term courses.
Apr. 14-26	Final examinations for Winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 26	All take home examinations are due on this day.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A35 Paterson Hall www.carleton.ca/philosophy 520-2110
Registrar's Office:	300 Tory www.carleton.ca/registrar 520-3500
Academic Advising Centre:	302 Tory www.carleton.ca/academicadvising 520-7850
Writing Services:	4 th Floor, Library http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/ 520-3822
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735