



Credit Hours: 3

Catalog Course Description:

An introduction to moral theory and/or a consideration of a variety of moral problems, including abortion, suicide and euthanasia, capital punishment, women's issues, sex and AIDS, animals and the environment and war.

Prerequisites: None. Students must be able to read and write at a college level. Students must also be responsible enough to prepare for, attend, and participate in class regularly.

Textbook(s) and Other Courses:

Cardwell, Charles E., *Hornbook Ethics*
Sartre, Jean Paul, "Existentialism is a Humanism"
Plato, "Ring of Gyges"
Aristotle, "Nicomachean Ethics"
Mill, John Stuart, "Utilitarianism"
Rachels, James, "Active and Passive Euthanasia:"
Thomson, Judith Jarvis, "A Defense of Abortion"
Steinbock, Bonnie, "Speciesism and the Idea of Equality"
Fullinwider, Robert K., "Affirmative Action and Fairness"
Baxter, William F., "People or Penguins: The Case for Optimal Pollution"

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

<u>Unit 1</u>	Ethics and Ethical Reasoning
<u>Unit 2</u>	Normative Predicates
<u>Unit 3</u>	Aristotle, Natural Law, Natural Rights, Virtue Ethics
<u>Unit 4</u>	Existentialist Ethics / Sartre, Nihilism, Skepticism, Non-Cognitivism, Divine Command, Relativism
<u>Unit 5</u>	Consequentialism / Utilitarianism
<u>Unit 6</u>	Deontology / Kant
<u>Unit 7</u>	Euthanasia
<u>Unit 8</u>	Abortion
<u>Unit 9</u>	Speciesism / Animal Rights
<u>Unit 10</u>	Affirmative Action
<u>Unit 11</u>	Environmental Ethics
<u>Unit 12</u>	Final Exam

II. Course Goals*:

- A. Extend the students' understanding of moral philosophy and of the main moral theories in Western thought. I.7, II.1, II.4, II.6, III.2
- B. Expand the students' awareness of the major moral issues of our time. I.7, II.4, II.6
- C. Enhance the students' ability to think about moral issues in a critical and open minded way. I.7, II.1, II.4, II.6, III.2
- D. Foster the students' ability to apply the theories studied to the issues considered. I.2, I.7, II.6, III.2
- E. Develop the students' ability to articulate views about these and other moral/philosophical issues. I.2, I.5, I.7, II.6

*Roman numerals after course objectives reference the university parallel program General Education Goals.

III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes*:

Students will be able to:

1. Sketch the central features of the most widely studied moral theories. A
2. Compare/contrast commonly used normative predicates. B, C
3. Define basic logical terms. C
4. Explain the role of argumentation in philosophy/moral philosophy. A, B, C, D, E
5. Evaluate the most widely studied moral theories. A, C, E
6. Describe the morally relevant facts related to the above topics. B, C, E
7. Analyze the moral issues relevant to the above topics. A, B, C, D, E
8. Evaluate the morality of the above topics from utilitarian, deontological, and other relevant perspectives. A, B, C, D, E
9. Write papers applying the principles of moral analysis both to problems directly discussed in class and to those not directly discussed in class. A, B, C, D, E

*Letters after performance expectations reference the course objectives listed above.

IV. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures:

The grade will be based upon

- A comprehensive short answer exam covering the content of *Hornbook Ethics*.
 - Participation in and contribution to class discussion
 - Short reflective summaries of assigned readings
- Being a "good traveler" and actively participating in all required field trips.

B. Laboratory Expectations: N/A

C. Field Work: [see above]

D. Other Evaluation Methods: N/A

E. Grading Scale:

100-90	= A
89-85	= B+
84-80	= B
79-75	= C+
74-70	= C
69-60	= D
59-00	= F

V. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Attendance is of utmost importance in study abroad courses. There are no unexcused absences permitted. Multiple unexcused absences are grounds for removal from the program. Being in class on time is also very important. Frequent tardiness will be considered an absence and appropriate action will be taken. Absences due to illness must be reported immediately to the program director.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices: Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign either (1) an F or zero for the assignment or (2) an F for the course.

C. Accommodations for Disabilities:

If you need accommodation because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share, or if you need special arrangements in case a building must be evacuated, please immediately inform the instructor in private.

To request accommodations students must register with Services for Students with Disabilities at his or her college.

VI. Instructional Hours:

Formal classroom	24hours
Sites and museums	16 hours
Total:	40 hours.