

# Virginia Western Community College

## PHI 220

### Ethics

#### **Prerequisites**

None

#### **Course Description**

Provides a systematic study of representative ethical systems.

Lecture 3 hours per week.

Additionally, this class questions basic assumptions on the meaning of self, causality, language, religious disciplines, and beauty.

**Semester Credits: 3**

**Lecture Hours: 3**

#### **Required Materials**

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Blackboard

#### **Textbook:**

Vaughn, Lewis, *Doing Ethics*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Norton. ISBN# 978-0-393-26541-5

#### **Other Required Materials: (Optional)**

None

## Course Outcomes

**At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

- Articulate a basic understanding of the ethics of moral living.
- Examine personal and social issues from a philosophical perspective.
- Sketch an overview of the nature of morality using both literature and philosophy.
- Define the major issues in the discussion of morality: good and evil; virtues and values; egoism; the meaning of life; freedom; and self- respect.
- Develop a world view on the issues of sex, love, marriage, abortion, and euthanasia.
- Examine our duty toward animals, the environment and terrorism.

## Topical Description

1	<b>What is the Purpose of Morality?</b> A. On the Nature and Purpose of Morality B. On the State of Nature
2	<b>Good and Evil</b> A. Why is There Evil? B. On the Origin of good and Evil
3	<b>Utilitarianism</b> A. Classical Utilitarianism B. A Defense for and Against Utilitarianism
4	<b>Deontological Ethics</b> A. The Moral Law B. Does Morality Depend on Religion
5	<b>Virtue Ethics</b> A. Virtue Ethics B. Virtue and the Moral Life
6	<b>Virtues and Vices</b> A. Jealousy, Malice and Ingratitude B. Moral Cowardice
7	<b>Does Life Have meaning?</b> A. Hedonism B. The Good Brahmin
8	<b>Freedom, Autonomy and Self-respect</b> A. I Have a Dream B. Servility and Self-respect

9	<b>Applied Ethics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Sex, Love and Marriage<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Marriage, Love and Procreation</li><li>B. We Have No Right to Happiness</li></ul></li><li>○ Is Abortion Morally Permissible?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Why Abortion is Immoral</li><li>B. A Defense for Abortion</li></ul></li><li>○ Euthanasia<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. The Wrongness of Euthanasia</li><li>B. Active and passive Euthanasia</li></ul></li></ul>
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### **Notes to Instructors**

None