

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. Canvas

Textbook:

Vaughn, Lewis, *Doing Ethics*, 5th ed. Norton. ISBN# 978-0-393-66725-7

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

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

None