

**HIBBING COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE**

COURSE TITLE & NUMBER: Ethics: PHIL 1300

CREDITS: 3 (3 Lecture / 0 Lab)

PREREQUISITES: None

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Ethics, utilizing the foundation of moral thinking dating back to the Classical Greeks, examines the thinking of the great philosophers of history and applies these concepts to contemporary problems facing today's citizens. Current moral issues are examined using the traditional concepts of good, right, duty, and responsibility. Using ethical theories such as consequentialism, virtue ethics, deontological ethics, and the thinking of Hume, Hobbes, Kant, Bentham, and others, the student will develop a personal perspective for dealing with today's moral dilemmas. Students apply critical thinking skills to the development of an objective, empathic, value-based view of the world.

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

- I. Ethical theory
 - A. Definition of philosophy and relationship of ethics to philosophy
 - B. Differentiation of ethics from religion, science, and law
 - C. Derivation of moral thinking
 - D. Consequentialist (teleological) theories of ethics
 - 1. Utilitarianism
 - 2. Egoistic theory
 - E. Deontological theories
 - 1. Divine command or religious ethics
 - 2. Kant's Categorical Imperative
 - F. Virtue ethics
 - G. Absolutism and relativism in ethical thinking
 - H. Information Ethics
- II. Applications

COURSE GOALS/OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES:

Students will

- 1. define the philosophical study of human conduct.
- 2. distinguish ethical thinking from religious, scientific, and legal thinking.
- 3. describe the theory of ethical egoism.
- 4. analyze the deontological theory of Immanuel Kant.
- 5. clarify the concept of truth as it is understood in the epistemological concepts of absolutism and relativism.

6. apply consequentialist theory to a bio-medical issue.
7. distinguish between intrinsic and instrumental valuation.
8. describe an individual ethical theory .
9. use virtue theory when analyzing moral scenarios.
10. apply utilitarian and deontological theories to a current moral issue.
11. summarize two major issues in biomedical ethics.
12. distinguish the characteristics of moral agents and moral patients.
13. describe the moral problems which are brought by the information revolution.

MNTC GOALS AND COMPETENCIES MET:

Humanities and Fine Arts,
Ethical and Civic Responsibility

HCC COMPETENCIES MET:

Working Productively and Cooperatively
Communicating Clearly and Effectively
Thinking Clearly and Critically
Social/Civic Responsibility

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS:

The student is expected to attend class regularly, actively participate in class discussion, and complete coursework as required. The student will complete a major term paper applying the basic principles of ethical theory to a social problem or dilemma. In class the students will apply ethical concepts to various moral problems, debating issues from different perspectives.

**STUDENT ASSESSMENT SHALL TAKE PLACE USING INSTRUMENTS
SELECTED/DEVELOPED BY THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR.**

**SPECIAL INFORMATION: (SPECIAL FEES, DIRECTIVES ON HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS, ETC.):**

AASC APPROVAL DATE: December 18, 2013
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REVIEW DATE: December 2018

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