

PHIL 101 Introduction to Philosophy: Morals & Society

3 Credits

MW 11:30-12:45 p.m. in Palanakila 213 (CRN - 64402)

INSTRUCTOR: Steven Stegeman, Ph.D.

OFFICE: Palanakila 152

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Wednesday 8:25 - 9:55 a.m. or by appointment

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EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring 2017

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai'i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide O'ahu's Ko'olau region and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This course will consist of an examination of social and individual values, rights, obligations and responsibilities. *This class fulfills Windward CC's "DH" general education requirement.*

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times

- Extra-credit sessions will get scheduled. They will be interspersed throughout the semester as needed and scheduled as conveniently for all as possible. However, these sessions will be recorded and made available via Lualima and so will not be mandatory, though all students will be responsible for the content covered during these sessions. (For more, see "Course Tasks" section below.)
- Also, since all tests for this class, including the final one, are administered via Lualima, the meeting time scheduled week 17, that is, final-exam week will be used for a final culminating class for which bonus similar to an extra-credit session (explained above) will be awarded.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student learning outcomes for the course are:

1. Recognize the major views that have defined the Western debate on ethical matters to include: virtue ethics, teleological theory, and deontological theory.
2. Use logical reasoning and ethical concepts to analyze contemporary ethical problems.
3. Defend a position on a fundamental problem in ethics.
4. Compare, contrast, and evaluate deontological, teleological, and virtue ethics in terms of their respective views of (a) human nature, (b) the nature of goodness, (c) the good life.

COURSE TASKS

Instructor's Detailed Course Description:

First will be an examination of how the field of ethics emerged in ancient Greece. Then, after a general overview and analysis of three of ethics' most prominent schools, Aristotelian Virtue Ethics, Kantian Deontology, and Utilitarianism, the class will pivot toward two questions. What characterizes the moment when conduct becomes ethical? Why does acting ethically not come more naturally and effortlessly? These questions will be interconnectedly examined through the lens of the Existentialist Ethics of Jean-Paul Sartre, the Personalist Ethics of Karol Wojtyla (the late Pope John Paul II), and Classical Confucian Ethics. This will involve discussions of consciousness, interdependence, subjectivity, intersubjectivity, objectification and the problem of ethics.

Grade Scale: 90 or higher = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D. Below 60 is a failing grade.

Grading Policy: Four Tests worth 25% each = 100%

- Tests will be timed take-home tests administered through Laulima. The question(s) on the "Modal Branches of Philosophy" handout for Test #1 will be done briefly in class.

Also, a 10+% BONUS toward the final grade is available via the "Book, Attendance & Extra-credit Session Bonuses"!

- "Book Bonus" – Up to 3 bonus percentage points can be earned toward your final grade via the "Book Bonus": each book is worth 1 bonus point!!!
- There are 7 "Attendance Bonus" points available; see the "Attendance Policy" below...
- Extra-credit sessions will get scheduled. They will be interspersed throughout the semester as needed. At least 1 bonus point will be awarded for attending or writing a two-/three-page paper about what I taught at such a session. However, these sessions will be recorded and made available via Laulima and so will not be mandatory, though all students will be responsible for the content covered during these sessions.

Attendance Policy:

Students should miss no more than eight classes. Upon a ninth absence a student should receive an F. Tardies will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

"Attendance Bonus" – Attendance will be used to award bonus points towards a student's final grade. Up to 6 bonus percentage points can be earned via the "Attendance Bonus". They will be awarded as follows: 0 absences - 7 bonus points; 1 absence - 4 points; 2 absences - 2!!! However, as these are bonus points, excused absences will NOT be taken into account.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale 'Akoakoa 213 for more information.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Required Texts & Readings (primary texts for purchase at the bookstore in bold):

Confucius. *The Analects*, trans. D. C. Lau, New York, New York: Penguin Books, 1979 (ISBN-10: 0140443487).

Missner, Marshall. *On Ethics*, Belmont, California: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning, Inc., 2004 (ISBN-10: 0534252354). (PDF of assigned sections made available by instructor via Laulima.)

Sartre, Jean-Paul. *Being and Nothingness*, trans. Hazel E. Barnes, New York, New York: Washington Square Press, 1984 (ISBN-10: 0671867806). (PDF of assigned sections made available by instructor via Laulima.)

Sartre, Jean-Paul. *Existentialism and Human Emotions*, New York, New York: Carol Publishing Group, 1995 (ISBN-10: 0806509023).

Weigel, George. *Witness To Hope – The Biography of Pope John Paul II*, New York, New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1999 (ISBN-10: 0060932864). (PDF of assigned sections made available by instructor via Laulima.)

Wojtyla, Karol (Pope John Paul II). *Love and Responsibility*, San Francisco, California: Ignatius Press, 1993 (ISBN-10: 0898704456).

Wojtyla, Karol. *The Acting Person*, trans. Andrzej Potocki, Boston, Massachusetts: D. Reidel Publishing Company, 1969 (ISBN-10: 9027709696). (PDF of assigned sections made available by instructor via Laulima.)

Wojtyła, Karol. *Toward a Philosophy of Praxis: An Anthology*, ed. Alfred Bloch & George T. Czuczka, New York, New York: Crossroads Publishing Company, 1981 (ISBN-10: 0824500334). (PDF of assigned sections made available by instructor via Laulima.)

Recommended Texts & Readings:

Stegeman, Steven. *Karol Wojtyla's interpersonalist ethics: A critical Sartrean appraisal and Confucian adaptation*. Doctoral dissertation, Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Ann Arbor, Michigan: ProQuest, LLC, 2016. (PDF of dissertation made available by instructor via Laulima.)

COURSE SCHEDULE

**** Before making any kind of recording of the class, please get the instructor's permission! ****

Week	Weekly Planner (subject to adjustment)
1	Lectures on Philosophy and Ethics Basics, including the Modal Branches of Philosophy
2	Lectures on Philosophy and Ethics Basics continued Missner: <i>On Ethics</i> (Chapter 1 "Introduction", pgs. 1-4; Chapter 2 "The Bible", pgs. 11-14; Chapter 3 "Utilitarianism", pgs. 16-26, 40-41; Chapter 4 "Kant", pgs. 42-53, 56-60, 68-69, 72-73; Chapter 5 "Aristotle", pgs. 74-87, 96-97, 103-104)
3	Readings in Missner continued
4	Readings in Missner continued
5	Readings in Missner continued
6	Readings in Missner continued Test #1 on Philosophy and Ethics Basics/Missner
7	Sartre: <i>Existentialism and Human Emotions</i> (Essay, "Existentialism"); <i>Being and Nothingness</i> (Section, "The Look")
8	Readings in Sartre continued
9	Readings in Sartre continued
10	Readings in Sartre continued
11	Readings in Sartre continued Test #2 on Sartre/Existentialist Ethics
12	Wojtyla: <i>Love and Responsibility</i> ("Author's Introduction to the First Edition", pgs. 15-18; Chapter I "The Person and the Sexual Urge", pgs. 21-44; Chapter II "The Person and Love", pgs. 73-95, 119-140)
13	Readings in Wojtyla continued
14	Readings in Wojtyla continued
15	Readings in Wojtyla continued Test #3 on Wojtyla/Personalist Ethics
16	Confucius: <i>The Analects</i> (selected readings)
17	Readings in Confucius continued <i>*NOTE that, since all tests for this class, including the final one, are administered via Laulima, the meeting time scheduled for final-exam week will be used for a final culminating class for which bonus similar to an extra-credit session (explained above) will be awarded.</i> Test #4 on Confucius/Confucian Ethics