

Course ID:	Course Title:	Winter 2017
PH 202	Ethics	Prerequisite: PH 125
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	T & Th	Instructor:	Ken Nickel (Ph.D.)	First day of classes:	Wed., Jan 4, 2017
Time:	2:30 - 3:45	Email:	knickel@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Jan. 15, 2017
Room:	2131	Phone:	410-2000 ext 6903	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Mar. 6, 2017
Lab/ Tutorial:		Office:	2103	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri, Mar. 17, 2017
		Office Hours:	Upon request	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Mon, Mar. 29, 2017
Final Exam:	Wed, April 19 1:00 2210		twitter: Ken Nickel@Nomet4U	Last day of classes:	Tue, April 11, 2017

Course Description

This course provides students with a general survey of the history of moral philosophy. As well, it introduces them to the important debates in moral theorizing and to the practice of applied ethics.

Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Students should learn to appreciate the contributions of prominent historical figures in the development of the Western tradition of moral philosophy such as Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, Hume, Kant, Mill, Nietzsche, among others.
2. Students should learn to articulate the general distinctions between metaethics, normative ethics, and applied ethics.
3. Students should learn to articulate some of the practical and conceptual implications of various schools of ethical thought such as utilitarianism, deontology, noncognitivism, intuitionism, among others.

4. Students should learn to appreciate how moral philosophy engages with important areas of allied study including, but not limited to, theology, education, and political and legal philosophy.

Textbooks

Cahn, Steven M., and Peter Markie, eds. *Ethics: History, Theory, and Contemporary Issues*. 6th ed. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2015.

Recommended:

Vaughn, Lewis, and Jillian Scott McIntosh. *Writing Philosophy: A Guide for Canadian Students*. 2nd ed. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2013.

Online Resource:

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (SEP)

<http://plato.stanford.edu/contents.html>

Course Schedule¹

JAN 5	Introduction
JAN 10	Plato (1)
JAN 12	
JAN 17	Aristotle (2): Virtue Ethics
JAN 19	
JAN 24	Epicurus (3) & Epictetus (5): Epicureanism and Stoicism
JAN 26	NO CLASS
JAN 31	
FEB 2	Augustine (6), Aquinas (7): Divine Command Theory & Natural Law
FEB 7	Egoism and Social Contract Theory: Hobbes (8), Rawls (26), Scanlon (28)
FEB 9	Hume (10) & Non-cognitivism ²
FEB 14	
FEB 16	Kant (11) & Deontology:

¹ The Instructor reserves the right to revise this outline to accommodate timely or pressing issues that may arise.

² Supplement from Hume's *Treatise*.

FEB 21	READING WEEK
FEB 23	READING WEEK
FEB 28 MAR 2	Bentham (12) & Mill (13): Utilitarianism
MAR 7 MAR 9	Consequentialism vs. Deontology: Williams (24), Nielsen ³ Trolley-ology (56) & (57)
MAR 14	Moral Luck: Nagel (33)
MAR 16	Moral Realism and Moral Relativism: Nietzsche (14), Ross (25), Harman (38), Mackie (40), Rachels (44)
MAR 21	

Applied Issues

MAR 23	Wealth Inequality (51) & (52)
MAR 28 MAR 30	Abortion (45-48) Euthanasia (49) & (50)
APR 4 APR 6	Environmental Ethics (53)
APR 11	Torture (54) & (55)

Requirements:

1. **Attendance and Participation** 15%
 - Please make every effort to be seated and prepared for class **by 2:30 PM**. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of most, if not all, classes. Students are expected to attend each class session with **an engaged frame of mind**. Students should be prepared to contribute **thoughtful** conversation to the topics under discussion. **Absence from class may result in a deduction of 1 mark.** Class participation is assessed on the balance. Students whose attendance is perfect but who are otherwise unconversant with class material and discussion should anticipate a **C+** (10.5/15) for this portion of their grade.
 - Students *may* enhance their participation grade by contributing commentary and analysis to **online discussion forums found on Moodle**.

³ Nielsen, Kai. "Against Moral Conservativism." *Ethics* 82, no. 3 (1972): 219-31.

- Students physically in class but otherwise engaged in non-class activities are simply *in the same room and may be assessed as absent*. This can negatively effect participation evaluation as well. Students who regularly arrive late, leave in the middle, or depart early may be marked as absent.
- Students absent from 12 or more classes automatically receive a failing grade for the course.

2. **First writing assignment** 17.5%

- Due Thursday, February 9 @ 2:30 PM
- A separate document regarding topics, format and submission guidelines, and late policy will be available on Moodle. Papers may be submitted by the Instructor to “Turnitin” for originality assessment. Personal privacy is protected.
- Students must submit a paper to be eligible to write the Final Exam.

3. **Second writing assignment** 27.5%

- Due: Tuesday, April 11 @ 4:00 PM
- A separate document regarding topics, format and submission guidelines, and late policy will be available on Moodle. Papers may be submitted by the instructor to “Turnitin” for originality assessment. Personal privacy is protected.
- Students who have not submitted research papers prior to the Final Exam will not be permitted to write the Final Exam.

4. **Final Exam** 40%

- Date: Wednesday, April 19 @ 1:00 AM in 2210.
- Students must pass the Final Exam to ensure a passing grade in the course. A student who performs well during the term but fails the Final Exam may fail the course.
- Students should refrain from scheduling flights or travel of any sort that will conflict with the Final Examination schedule. Final examinations will not be rescheduled to accommodate travel arrangements.

Grade Summary:

Letter Grade	GPA	Description	Percentage
A+	4.0		96-100 %
A	4.0	Exceptional	91-95 %
A-	3.7		86-90 %
B+	3.3		82-85 %
B	3.0	Exceeds Expectations	75-81 %
B-	2.7		72-74 %
C+	2.3		68-71 %
C	2.0	Meets Expectations	63-67 %
C-	1.7		60-62 %
D+	1.3		56-59 %
D	1.0	Minimal Pass	50-55 %
F	0.0	Failure	≤ 49 %

Other:

- ✓ **Students are responsible to check the Moodle** course site and their Ambrose e-mail accounts regularly. Moodle will remind students of upcoming topics and readings. E-mail may be used to notify students of cancelled classes or other important details relating to the course.
- ✓ Use of cell phones, recording devices, head phones, and all other non-essential technology is **prohibited**. **Text messaging** during class is prohibited.
- ✓ **Phones must be put away during class.**
- ✓ **Lap top computers, I-pads, tablets, etc., are prohibited** from general use during class. Exceptions may be made on an individual basis for students with relevant disabilities and needs. Students wanting to use lap tops in class must discuss this with the instructor personally. Lap tops used for purposes unrelated to taking lecture notes are prohibited.

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a

laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.