



PHIL 2050: Ethics and Values

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring

Course Prefix: PHIL

Course Title: Ethics and Values

Year: 2025

Course and Section #: 2050 003

Credits: 3

Course Description

Challenges students to explore and clarify their values; critically read works of philosophy, literature, religion, and history toward understanding the basis of their ethical views; and read, study, research, discuss, and write about difficult ethical issues. Focuses on issues of good vs. evil, justice vs. injustice, equality vs. inequality, and the necessity of defining and examining happiness and values. Engages students in serious reflection on issues of ethics and values as they relate to the students' own lives.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Tiffany Evans

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Explain several different theories of ethics, and contemporary ethical issues.
 2. Describe the moral ethical dimensions of works of philosophy, literature, religion, and other disciplines within the humanities.
 3. Articulate their own ethical views and positions.
 4. Interrelate with a society of increasing intercultural connections.
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Course Materials and Texts

Texts can be found under the Course Orientation Module. I recommend you PRINT version (Links to an external site.)

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Grading Scale: Course Assessment and Evaluations

Explication of the Meaning of Grades

A-level grade: the student has not only met, but consistently exceeded the expectations set out for a B-level grade. This means that meeting the stated requirements alone does not entitle one to an A-level grade.

B-level grade: the student has met all of the course expectations, has been engaged and demonstrates a suitable understanding of the material. They have submitted quality assignments on time, in accordance with the stated requirements.

C-level grade: the student has fallen short in any or some of the aspects that are required for a B-level grade.

D-level grade: the student has fallen significantly short in the aspects that are required for a B-level grade to an extent that does not warrant a C-level grade.

F-level grade: the student has not met the minimum requirements of the course.

The following grading standards will be used in this class:

Grade	Percent
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66

D-	60-62
E	0-59

Grade breakdown

Assignments	75%
In-class Activities & Quizzes	10%
Attendance	10%
Participation	5%
Total	100%

Late Work Statement:

The best way to be successful in this course is to submit all assignments by their due date. All assignments will be located available in the Canvas Module. Attendance and participation are critical to success in this course.

In the event that you will not be able to meet a due date, contact me as soon as possible.

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

See General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture below

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Module 0: Course Orientation

Module 0: Course Orientation

Module 0: Course Orientation module publish options, published

Add Content to Module 0: Course Orientation

- Attachment
[Spring 2025 Course Outline.docx](#)

Manage Spring 2025 Course Outline.docx

- Page
[Syllabus](#)
Published. Click to unpublish Syllabus.
Manage Syllabus
- Attachment
[Philosophy-Ethics- Textbook .pdf](#)
Manage Philosophy-Ethics- Textbook .pdf
- Page
[Instructor Information](#)
Published. Click to unpublish Instructor Information.
Manage Instructor Information
- Page
[Create an MS Teams Account](#)
Published. Click to unpublish Create an MS Teams Account.
Manage Create an MS Teams Account
- Page
[Driving questions](#)
Published. Click to unpublish Driving questions.
Manage Driving questions
- Page
[Helpful resources for students](#)
Published. Click to unpublish Helpful resources for students.
Manage Helpful resources for students

Module 1: Introduction to Philosophy 2050

Module 1: Introduction to Philosophy 2050

Module 1: Introduction to Philosophy 2050 module publish options, published

Add Content to Module 1: Introduction to Philosophy 2050

- Discussion Topic
[Meet and Greet Assignment](#)
Jan 7
10 pts
Can't unpublish Meet and Greet Assignment if there are student submissions
Manage Meet and Greet Assignment
- Assignment
[Course Intention Assignment](#)
Jan 10
10 pts
Published. Click to unpublish Course Intention Assignment.
Manage Course Intention Assignment
- Assignment
[Attendance](#)
Apr 21
Published. Click to unpublish Attendance.
Manage Attendance

Module 2: Values

Module 2: Values

Module 2: Values module publish options, published

Add Content to Module 2: Values

- Assignment
 - Individual Value Rankings Assignment In Class**
 - Jan 8
 - 5 pts
 - Published. [Click to unpublish Individual Value Rankings Assignment In Class.](#)
 - Manage Individual Value Rankings Assignment In Class
- Assignment
 - Building My House - In Class Assignment**
 - Jan 13
 - 10 pts
 - Published. [Click to unpublish Building My House - In Class Assignment.](#)
 - Manage Building My House - In Class Assignment

Module 3: Cultural Relativism

Module 3: Cultural Relativism

Module 3: Cultural Relativism module publish options, published

Add Content to Module 3: Cultural Relativism

- Assignment
 - Written Response Paper - Chapter # 1: Chapter # 1 Aren't Right and Wrong Just Matters of Opinions? On Moral Relativism and Subjectivism?**
 - Jan 14
 - 10 pts
 - Published. [Click to unpublish Written Response Paper - Chapter # 1: Chapter # 1 Aren't Right and Wrong Just Matters of Opinions? On Moral Relativism and Subjectivism? .](#)
 - Manage Written Response Paper - Chapter # 1: Chapter # 1 Aren't Right and Wrong Just Matters of Opinions? On Moral Relativism and Subjectivism?
- Discussion Topic
 - Friday, January 17, 2025: Assignment to be completed during class time**
 - Jan 17
 - 10 pts
 - Published. [Click to unpublish Friday, January 17, 2025: Assignment to be completed during class time.](#)
 - Manage Friday, January 17, 2025: Assignment to be completed during class time
- Assignment
 - Written Response Paper: McRaney Confirmation Bias Reading Assignment**
 - Jan 21
 - 10 pts
 - Published. [Click to unpublish Written Response Paper: McRaney Confirmation Bias Reading Assignment.](#)
 - Manage Written Response Paper: McRaney Confirmation Bias Reading Assignment
- Quiz
 - Quiz Relativism & Confirmation Bias**

Jan 24

10 pts

Unpublished. Click to publish Quiz Relativism & Confirmation Bias.

Manage Quiz Relativism & Confirmation Bias

Module 4: Is it all Me? Egoism, Social Contract Theory & Justice

Module 4: Is it all Me? Egoism, Social Contract Theory & Justice

Module 4: Is it all Me? Egoism, Social Contract Theory & Justice module publish options, published

Add Content to Module 4: Is it all Me? Egoism, Social Contract Theory & Justice

- Assignment

READ Chapter 4: What's in it for Me? On Egoism & Social Contract Theory: Reading Assignment

Jan 26

Published. Click to unpublish READ Chapter 4: What's in it for Me? On Egoism & Social Contract Theory: Reading Assignment.

Manage READ Chapter 4: What's in it for Me? On Egoism & Social Contract Theory: Reading Assignment

- Quiz

Chapter 4 Quiz: What's in it for Me? On Egoism and Social Contract Theory

Jan 31

10 pts

Unpublished. Click to publish Chapter 4 Quiz: What's in it for Me? On Egoism and Social Contract Theory .

Manage Chapter 4 Quiz: What's in it for Me? On Egoism and Social Contract Theory

Module 5: Virtue Ethics

Module 5: Virtue Ethics

Module 5: Virtue Ethics module publish options, published

Add Content to Module 5: Virtue Ethics

- Assignment

Written Response Paper: Chapter #3 Reading Assignment: How can I Be a Better Person? On Virtue Ethics

Feb 2

10 pts

Published. Click to unpublish Written Response Paper: Chapter #3 Reading Assignment: How can I Be a Better Person? On Virtue Ethics.

Manage Written Response Paper: Chapter #3 Reading Assignment: How can I Be a Better Person? On Virtue Ethics

- Quiz

Quiz Virtue Ethics

Feb 9, 2024

5 pts

Unpublished. Click to publish Quiz Virtue Ethics.

Manage Quiz Virtue Ethics

Module 6: Divine Command Theory, Religion & Ethics

Module 6: Divine Command Theory, Religion & Ethics

Module 6: Divine Command Theory, Religion & Ethics module publish options, published
Add Content to Module 6: Divine Command Theory, Religion & Ethics

- Assignment
 - [Read Only: Chapter #2 Reading Assignment - Can we Ethics Without Religion? On Divine Command Theory and Natural Law Theory](#)
 - Feb 9
 - Published. [Click to unpublish Read Only: Chapter #2 Reading Assignment - Can we Ethics Without Religion? On Divine Command Theory and Natural Law Theory.](#)
 - Manage Read Only: Chapter #2 Reading Assignment - Can we Ethics Without Religion? On Divine Command Theory and Natural Law Theory

Module 7: Utilitarianism

Module 7: Utilitarianism

Module 7: Utilitarianism module publish options, published
Add Content to Module 7: Utilitarianism

- Assignment
 - [Chapter # 5 Reading Assignment: Utilitarianism](#)
 - Feb 18
 - 10 pts
 - Published. [Click to unpublish Chapter # 5 Reading Assignment: Utilitarianism.](#)
 - Manage Chapter # 5 Reading Assignment: Utilitarianism

Module 8: Deontology

Module 8: Deontology

Module 8: Deontology module publish options, published
Add Content to Module 8: Deontology

- Assignment
 - [Chapter # 6 Reading Assignment: Kantian Deontology](#)
 - Feb 23
 - 10 pts
 - Published. [Click to unpublish Chapter # 6 Reading Assignment: Kantian Deontology.](#)
 - Manage Chapter # 6 Reading Assignment: Kantian Deontology

Module 9: Feminism

Module 9: Feminism

Module 9: Feminism module publish options, published
Add Content to Module 9: Feminism

- Assignment
 - [Chapter #7 Feminism and Feminist Ethics](#)
 - Mar 2
 - 0 pts
 - Published. [Click to unpublish Chapter #7 Feminism and Feminist Ethics.](#)

Manage Chapter #7 Feminism and Feminist Ethics

- Discussion Topic

The Trolley Problem in Real Life

Mar 19

10 pts

Published. [Click to unpublish The Trolley Problem in Real Life.](#)

Manage The Trolley Problem in Real Life

Module 8: Medical and Bioethics

Module 8: Medical and Bioethics

Module 8: Medical and Bioethics module publish options, unpublished

Add Content to Module 8: Medical and Bioethics

- Assignment

Why Bioethics Matter

Mar 19, 2024

10 pts

Unpublished. [Click to publish Why Bioethics Matter .](#)

Manage Why Bioethics Matter

- Discussion Topic

Time to Die: Discussion Assignment:

Mar 24, 2024

10 pts

Unpublished. [Click to publish Time to Die: Discussion Assignment: .](#)

Manage Time to Die: Discussion Assignment:

- Assignment

Reading Assignment: Judith Jarvis Thomson: A Defense of Abortion

Mar 26, 2024

10 pts

Unpublished. [Click to publish Reading Assignment: Judith Jarvis Thomson: A Defense of Abortion.](#)

Manage Reading Assignment: Judith Jarvis Thomson: A Defense of Abortion

- Assignment

Reading Assignment: Reproductive autonomy and the ethics of abortion

Mar 26, 2024

10 pts

Unpublished. [Click to publish Reading Assignment: Reproductive autonomy and the ethics of abortion.](#)

Manage Reading Assignment: Reproductive autonomy and the ethics of abortion

- Assignment

In Class Wednesday, March 20

Mar 20, 2024

5 pts

Unpublished. [Click to publish In Class Wednesday, March 20.](#)

Manage In Class Wednesday, March 20

Module 9: Discrimination & Racism

Module 9: Discrimination & Racism

Module 9: Discrimination & Racism module publish options, unpublished

Add Content to Module 9: Discrimination & Racism

- Assignment
 - Reading Assignment: Sullivan White Privilege**
 - Apr 2, 2024
 - 10 pts
 - Unpublished. Click to publish Reading Assignment: Sullivan White Privilege.
 - Manage Reading Assignment: Sullivan White Privilege
- Assignment
 - Macintosh White Privilege Reading Assignment**
 - Apr 2, 2024
 - 10 pts
 - Unpublished. Click to publish Macintosh White Privilege Reading Assignment.
 - Manage Macintosh White Privilege Reading Assignment
- Attachment
 - Sullivan White Priviledge.pdf**
 - Manage Sullivan White Priviledge.pdf
- Attachment
 - macintosh-white-privilege.pdf**
 - Manage macintosh-white-privilege.pdf
- Assignment
 - Ted Talk - Peggy McIntosh:**
 - Apr 4, 2024
 - 15 pts
 - Unpublished. Click to publish Ted Talk - Peggy McIntosh: .
 - Manage Ted Talk - Peggy McIntosh:

Module 10: Social Media

Module 10: Social Media

Module 10: Social Media module publish options, unpublished

Add Content to Module 10: Social Media

- Assignment
 - Social Media: Crash Course Navigating Digital Information Video**
 - Apr 12, 2024
 - 10 pts
 - Unpublished. Click to publish Social Media: Crash Course Navigating Digital Information Video.
 - Manage Social Media: Crash Course Navigating Digital Information Video
- Assignment
 - Counter to the Social Dilemma - Podcast**
 - Dec 6, 2022
 - 15 pts
 - Unpublished. Click to publish Counter to the Social Dilemma - Podcast.
 - Manage Counter to the Social Dilemma - Podcast

Final Exam: Select one of the Film Assignments

Final Exam: Select one of the Film Assignments

Final Exam: Select one of the Film Assignments module publish options, unpublished

Add Content to Final Exam: Select one of the Film Assignments

- Assignment
 - Film Assignment - The Social Dilemma**
 - Apr 29, 2024
 - 75 pts
 - Unpublished. Click to publish Film Assignment - The Social Dilemma .
 - Manage Film Assignment - The Social Dilemma
- Assignment
 - Final Discrimination & Racism Film Assignment**
 - Apr 29, 2024
 - 75 pts
 - Unpublished. Click to publish Final Discrimination & Racism Film Assignment.
 - Manage Final Discrimination & Racism Film Assignment

Module 8: Political Ethics & Freedom of Speech

Module 8: Political Ethics & Freedom of Speech

Module 8: Political Ethics & Freedom of Speech module publish options, unpublished

Add Content to Module 8: Political Ethics & Freedom of Speech

- Page
 - M05: Overview**
 - Unpublished. Click to publish M05: Overview .
 - Manage M05: Overview
- Assignment
 - Political Ethics Reading Assignment**
 - Oct 24, 2023
 - 10 pts
 - Unpublished. Click to publish Political Ethics Reading Assignment.
 - Manage Political Ethics Reading Assignment
- Assignment
 - Preparation Assignment Former Governor Gary Herbert**
 - Oct 29, 2023
 - 15 pts
 - Unpublished. Click to publish Preparation Assignment Former Governor Gary Herbert.
 - Manage Preparation Assignment Former Governor Gary Herbert
- Assignment
 - Governor Gary Herbert Response Paper**
 - Oct 30, 2023
 - 10 pts
 - Unpublished. Click to publish Governor Gary Herbert Response Paper .
 - Manage Governor Gary Herbert Response Paper
- Assignment
 - St. George Article**
 - Nov 3, 2023

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

The Department of Philosophy and Humanities recognizes that Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Processing Tools are largely accessible to students and will be used by many in higher education for the foreseeable future. However, the skills taught in the humanities are unique. We aim to educate students in the careful reading of texts, the development of rigorous writing skills, the analysis and use of arguments, and to foster the thoughtful application of each of these skills in students' personal and social development. Research has not yet determined what bearing the use of AI tools in the classroom will have upon the successful acquisition of these skills.

Therefore, at this time, online learning support platforms (like ChatGPT or Google Bard) may not be used for course assignments in our department except as explicitly authorized by the instructor. Any assignment or content composed by any resource other than the student (whether human or digital) must be attributed to the source through proper citation. Unacknowledged use of online learning support platforms is a form of scholastic dishonesty and will be treated as such.

Some of our language has been adapted from the University of Minnesota

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.