



Master Course Syllabus

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 038

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: Cláudia Maria de Paula Carneiro Boulter

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

All texts will be made available electronically. All other educational materials, videos, and assignments for the course can be found in each module where they will be discussed.

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

3.1. Course Mode: IN PERSON Synchronous Course.

This course has face-to-face sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. over Microsoft Teams. It also has asynchronous assignments and assessments due each week, usually on Sundays, with some exceptions that will be announced.

3.2. Description of how the course works:

Canvas is where content, grades, and communications (Inbox Canvas) will reside for this course. For this **three (3) credit-hours** course, students should expect to spend **9+ hours a week** completing course activities.

- Class participation in different ways is required. Students must participate in class discussions regularly, as it is a portion of their grade.

There will be study guides to answer, online quizzes, take-home exams, a mid-term, a final exam, a journal, and a final paper.

- There will be one Final Project and a Final Presentation of your Research Paper. It is the essay/presentation assignment: **individually or in a group of three** need to pick a subject that is an ethical/moral dilemma. Identify and explain one or more related philosophical/ethical arguments that deal with this issue. Using two (minimum) or three more philosophies studied during the semester, you need to critically evaluate these arguments and draw your ethical conclusion on the matter (applied ethics). Your final paper should be between 1000 to 1500 words (2 to 4 pages double-spaced, 12-point font Arial, or Times New Roman with 1-inch margins on standard printing paper).

3.3. Late Work Policy :

Some late work will be accepted but with penalties and **no longer than one class after the due date.** Doing your work on time is strongly encouraged, as the penalties can seriously affect your final grade.

3.3.1. Penalties:

1) **Study questions** may be submitted late but **will be automatically penalized by 20%**. No late work will be accepted after the final day of class (April 30). Spring 2025 - Time Table

2) **Group discussions and reading quizzes cannot be turned in after the due date.**

3) **Automatic Failing Grade.** Students who miss **five consecutive or non-consecutive class sessions or five consecutive or non-consecutive assignments/assessments** can generate an automatic failing grade unless there are **proven extenuating circumstances.** 4) The term “**extenuating circumstances**” includes:

(a) **Incapacitating illness that prevents a student from attending classes (usually more than five consecutive class days);**

(b) **Death in the immediate family;**

(c) **Change in work schedule as required by the employer**

(d) **Jury duty or Subpoena**

(e) **Active military duty**

(f) **other emergencies deemed acceptable by the instructor.**

1) *Cheating* is the act of using or attempting to use or provide others with unauthorized information, materials, or study aids in academic work. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, passing examination answers to or taking examinations for someone else or preparing or copying others' academic work.

2) *Plagiarism* is the act of appropriating any other person's or group's ideas or work (written, computerized, artistic, etc.) or portions thereof and passing them off as the product of one's own work in any academic exercise or study.” **[THIS INCLUDES INFORMATION OR WORK ACCESSED VIA THE INTERNET, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) OR WORK DONE BY ANOTHER STUDENT IN THE COURSE]**

3) **NO USE OF AI IS PERMITTED IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLETING ASSIGNMENTS, INCLUDING BRAINSTORMING, STRUCTURING, OR GRAMMAR AND**

SPELLCHECKING. Using AI, including ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, CoPilot, and similar tools, constitutes plagiarism and is subject to the penalties specified in this section.

4) **All assignments will be evaluated for plagiarism and AI utilization using Copyleaks embedded in Canvas.** The instructor is not responsible for determining the cause or motivation of plagiarism, and the validity of the charge does not depend on the student's intent or motivation.

Even unintentional plagiarism is still plagiarism. Therefore, if you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, contact the professors before turning in an assignment.

Please cite every source you use in completing an assignment (including all articles, books, websites, etc.). **The professor will determine the punishment for any instance of cheating or plagiarism.**

Depending on the severity of the offense, such action can range from failing the assignment to failing the entire course. Plagiarized work is easy to spot and document.

https://www.uvu.edu/legal/copyright/just_4_stu/

5.1. Attendance

You are expected to attend all class sessions. Attendance will be randomly taken throughout the semester. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their own attendance record. Absence from class makes it extremely difficult to be a successful student.

5.2. Student Responsibilities:

- *Attend all class sessions and start class the first week of the term. Be accountable by setting aside regular weekly time to complete course activities and assignments on time, as noted per the due dates.*
- Learn how to use Canvas, including communication tools (e.g., discussion, Canvas inbox, etc.) - *Commons (instructure.com)*
- *If you have technology-related problems, contact the Service Desk, Service Desk | Utah Valley University (uvu.edu)*
- *Abide by ethical standards. **Your work must be your own.***
- ***If students have concerns or problems with the class, they should first meet with the professor or instructor.** • If an emergency arises, contact your instructor as early as possible. Do not wait until the last minute to ask for an extension. I tend not to open Inbox Canvas on weekends, breaks, or holidays*
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- **NOTE:** You may NOT share or reproduce ANY course content, including course texts, assignment descriptions, class recordings, and your own work, on ANY platform outside the Canvas page for this class, PHIL 2050-038. This includes note-sharing websites and other platforms. Any breach of this policy violates academic integrity, course and university policy, and federal copyright law and will result in a failing grade for the course (even retroactively) and an official report of conduct to the University.

• 6 • Grades are based on the followin g scale. A	• 1 • 00-94%
• A -	• 9 • 3-90%

• B +	• 8 9-87%
• B	• 8 6-83%
• B -	• 8 2-80%
• C +	• 7 9-77%
• C	• 7 6-73%
• C -	• 7 2-70%
• D +	• 6 9-67%
• D	• 6 6-63%
• D -	• 6 2-60%
• E	• < 59%
• UW	• u nofficial withdra wal

According to the **Academic Policies & Standards**

“A” is an exceptional grade indicating superior achievement;

“B” is a grade indicating commendable mastery; “C” indicates satisfactory mastery and is considered an average grade;

“D” indicates substandard progress and insufficient evidence of ability to succeed in sequential courses;

“E” (failing) indicates inadequate mastery of pertinent skills or repeated absences from class;

“UW” indicates unofficial withdrawal from class.

Points Possible per Activity	Percentage of Final Grade	
Reading Quizzes Students will be given 5 to 10 quizzes over the readings to be completed within 30 to 50 minutes of opening the quiz. Quizzes must be submitted on the due date. Late submissions will not be accepted.	5 points per reading quiz.	10%

<p>Journal and Attendance You will journal during the classes, and your consistency with this assignment will contribute to your participation score. Late submissions will not be accepted. Attendance - Random attendance will be taken in the Live stream lectures throughout the semester. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their own attendance record. The professor will keep all records of attendance.</p>	<p>Journal - 40 points</p>	<p>10%</p>
<p>Study Questions Generally, students will answer 3-5 short study questions.</p>	<p>Students will be graded on a 1-5 point scale.</p>	<p>10%</p>
<p>Study questions must be submitted on the due date. See the above "Late Work" Policy.</p>		
<p>Group Discussions Each student must engage in an online conversation about the topics addressed in each module. This includes posting an original reflection and posting thoughtfully on others' comments. Late submissions will not be accepted.</p>	<p>Students will be graded on a 1-5 point scale.</p>	<p>10%</p>
<p>Activity</p>	<p>Points Possible per Activity</p>	<p>Percentage of Final Grade</p>
<p>Midterm Paper Students will write an essay analyzing a case study the professor provided, individually or in groups of three. The essay must be 500 to 750 words. Late submissions will not be accepted.</p>	<p>100 points possible based on the provided rubric.</p>	<p>20%</p>
<p>Final Paper and Presentations Students must write an original research paper individually or in a workgroup, utilizing two or three theoretical frameworks examined during the course. The paper should address a contemporary ethical dilemma of students' choice. Late submissions will not be accepted.</p>	<p>100 points possible based on the provided rubric.</p>	<p>20%</p>

Final Exam After completing the final module, students will take a final exam.	100 points possible.	20%
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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

WEEKS	TOPICS	LEARNING MATERIALS	ASSIGNMENTS
Week 1	Syllabus (Instructions/Orientation) What is Ethics?	Watch the Video and read the “Course Theme: Ethics and the Purpose of Life.”	Watch the video work in groups
Week 2	Logical Fallacies and Islamic Philosophy	Readings and videos addressing the Logical Fallacies. Videos: Simpsons Logical Fallacies, 10 Most Common Logical Fallacies, Empire of Faith	Assignment pro Quiz: Logical F Islamic Civiliz Documentary M DISCUSSION Islamic Culture Philosophy
Week 3	Theory of Forms and Virtue Theory	Video: Plato’s Allegory of the Cave - Alex Gendler and Introduction to Aristotle and Virtue Ethics and readings: The Allegory of the Cave and Nicomachean Ethics - Books 1 and 2	Submit reading Quizzes: The A Cave and Virtu
Week 4	Deontology and Utilitarianism	Videos: Duty Ethics, John Stuart Mill, Utilitarianism, and Aristotle, Kant, Mill.	Submit reading Quiz: Utilitaria Deontology.

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Readings: Kant's Grounding of Metaphysics of Morals-Section 1 and Kant's Grounding of Metaphysics of Morals-Section 2. Mill's Utilitarianism, Chapter 2		DISCUSSION: Venn Diagram - Wear a Mask	
Week 5	Religious Ethics	Reading: Euthyphro Dilemma and Divine Command Theory Watch: The Divine Command Theory and Morality and Religion - Shafer-Landau	DISCUSSION Divine Comma (DCT) Quiz: Religiou
Week 6	Existentialism	READ and SUBMIT: Existentialism	Submit reading

Week 7	Comparing Moral Theories		DISCUSSION IN-CLASS Moral Theories to Ethical
Week 8	Midterm		1st Assessment addressing Theories.
Week 9	Social Contract Theories	Video: Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau and The Social Contract Theory and Reading/Chart: Comparing the Social Contracts	Quiz: Study Q Contract
Week 10		Mon.-Sat. Mar. 10-15 – SPRING BREAK	
Week 11	Social Contract Theories		Presentations prepared by
Week 12	Theories of Justice	COMPARING/CONTRAST- The Theories of Justice	Presentations p students.
Week 13	Race and Gender	Readings: excerpt of The Second Sex (Simone de Beauvoir) and the Feminism Is for Everybody 9bell hooks). Reading Notes.	Submit Reading Quiz: Intersecc
Week 14	Animal Ethics and Ethics of War	Readings: All Animals are Equal by Peter Singer and When Soldiers Aren't Heroes by Michael Minch	Submit reading notes.
Week 15	Final Research Paper and Presentations/Debates		
Week 16	Final Research Paper and Presentations/Debates		

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.