



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 #: 205G X14

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: Annette Velarde

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 of the required and supplemental course materials will be available on the course Canvas site.

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Due Dates and Deadlines

- All assignments are due on Canvas on the stated date and time.
- Late submissions are accepted for a limited amount of time (see table below). After the specified time, the assignment receives an automatic zero-grade.
- **NOTE: The Final Exam and the Book Report are DUE PRIOR TO finals week. Students are responsible for knowing assignment due dates. Any Final Exams and Book Reports submitted after the 24-hour grace period will receive a zero-grade. At this time the course permanently closes, and assignments can no longer be submitted.**

Late Policy

Assignment Late Penalties Max.

- Syllabus and Plagiarism Quiz no penalty
- Quizzes -1 point per week five weeks
- Discussions -2 points per day two days
- Essays -2 points per week six weeks
- Book Report Midterm Study Questions -2 points per day five days
- Book Report Final Study Questions -2 points per day five days
- Book Report Final 24-hour grace period
- Final Exam 24-hour grace period

Course Assignment and Requirements

Assignments

- **Syllabus and Plagiarism Quiz:** multiple choice; tests comprehension and retention of course information and policies. Must be retaken until a perfect score is achieved.

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<https://uvu.instructure.com/courses/603935/assignments/syllabus>

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- **Quizzes** : multiple choice; test comprehension of the course materials, including overviews, videos, and the readings, per half-module.
- **Discussions** : an initial response (≥ 250 words) based on a module-relevant prompt and engagement with peers (totalling ≥ 250 words).
- **Essays:** essays on prompts that unify the module's topic (500 words).
- **Ethics and Literature Book Report: Study Questions** : short answer questions about the book.
- **Ethics and Literature Book Report: Final:** an essay-length response to the book that reflects on the narrative using the tools developing this semester.
- **Final Exam:** comprehensive; a set of essay questions meant to interrelate the various modules of the course.

Assignment Weights

ASSIGNMENT DUE DATE %

Syllabus and Plagiarism Quiz

Last Day of Module 1 by 11:59pm

(20 points)

5%

Quizzes

Last day of each Module by 11:59pm

(5 points x 12 = 60 points)

10%

Discussions

See Discussion instructions

The Following Monday (comments)

(by 11:59pm)

(10 points x 7 = 70 points)

10%

Essays

Last day of each Module by 11:59pm

(20 points x 6 = 120 points)

30%

Ethics and Literature Book Report: Midterm and Final

Study Questions

Last day of Modules 4 and 7 by

11:59pm

(40 points x 2 = 80 points)

5%

Ethics and Literature Book Report: Final Essay Last Day of Class by 11:59pm 10%

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(20 points)

Final Exam

Last Day of Class by 11:59pm

(100 points)

30%

TOTAL 100%

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.

Course Grading Scale

B+ 87-89.99 C+ 77-79.99 D+ 67-69.99

A 94-100 B 83-86.99 C 73-76.99 D 60-66.99

A- 90-93.99 B- 80-82.99 C- 70-72.99 F 0-59.99

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

See General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion below

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Module 1 Discussion - How

does poverty influence our ideas

of right and wrong?

Module 1 Quiz 1: Virtue

Ethics

due by 11:59pm

Module 1 Quiz 2:

Utilitarianism and Deontology

due by 11:59pm

Syllabus and Plagiarism Quiz

due by 11:59pm

Module 1 Essay

due by 11:59pm

Sun Feb 2, 2025

Module 2 Discussion - Justice and Voting Rights

due by 11:59pm

Module 2 Quiz 3: Distributive Justice

due by 11:59pm

Module 2 Quiz 4: Social

Justice

due by 11:59pm

Module 2 Essay

due by 11:59pm

Sun Feb 16, 2025 **Module 3 Discussion - How**

do belief systems influence our moral decisions?

due by 11:59pm

Module 3 Quiz 5: Daoism and Ethics

due by 11:59pm

Module 3 Quiz 6: Islam and Ethics

due by 11:59pm

Module 3 - Antigone Progress Questions 1

due by 11:59pm

Module 3 Essay

due by 11:59pm

Sun Mar 2, 2025 **Module 4 Discussion - How Bias Influences Moral Decisions**

due by 11:59pm

Module 4 Quiz 7: Civil Rights

due by 11:59pm

Module 4 Quiz 8:

Intersectional Feminism

due by 11:59pm

Module 4 Essay (<https://>

Sun Mar 23, 2025

Module 5 - Quiz 10:

Intersectional Animal Ethics

due by 11:59pm

Module 5 Discussion -

**Human's Moral Responsibility for
Animals**

due by 11:59pm

Module 5 Quiz 9: Animal

Ethics

due by 11:59pm

Module 5 -Antigone Progress

Questions 2

due by 11:59pm

Module 5 Essay

due by 11:59pm

Sun Apr 6, 2025 **Module 6 Discussion -**

**Human's Moral Responsibility for
the Environment**

due by 11:59pm

Module 6 Quiz 11:

Environmental Ethics

due by 11:59pm

Module 6 Quiz 12: Indigenous

Environmental Ethics

due by 11:59pm

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Date Details Due

Module 6 Essay

due by 11:59pm

Sun Apr 20, 2025

Module 7 Final Exam

due by 11:59pm

Module 7 - Ethical Analysis of

Antigone - Final Essay

due by 11:59pm

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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.