

PHI 2603 Ethics in Contemporary Society
Fred Freckmann

Course Description: This course explores the fundamental problems of western ethics, the classical and Judeo-Christian traditions, modern ideals of the good for the individual and society, and contemporary problems pertaining to the professions, business, politics and the environment.

Text (required): Rachels' The Right Thing to Do (2nd ed)

Text (required): Rachels' The Elements of Moral Philosophy (3rd ed)

Purpose: The purpose of this course is twofold: first, to provide an introduction to ethical theories; and second, to apply those theories to the solution of contemporary moral problems.

Objectives: Completing this course will enable students to:

1. distinguish between ethics and morality.
2. explain the importance of mutual respect.
3. develop their own ethical world view.

Method of Instruction: The textbooks will serve as the basis for lectures, discussions, and exams. Videos will be shown and exercises will be conducted periodically to supplement the texts.

Method of Grading:

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| 1. Class Participation (includes attendance) | 10% |
| 2. Response Papers (5 @ 6% each) | 20% |
| 3. Exams (2 @ 30% each) | 60% |

Response Papers: Five response papers to video clips will be assigned and turned in no later than one week after viewing the film. Papers must be at least 3 typed pages, approximately 800-900 words (include word count), and must present a thoughtful response to the issue at hand. If you miss a video clip due to an unexcused absence, a makeup assignment may be requested with an automatic one point deduction. Late papers will be accepted; however, a late penalty will be imposed.

Grading Scale and Numerical Equivalents:

Grade	Description	Grade Points	Percentile
A	Outstanding	4.0	95-100
A-		3.7	90-94
B+	Above Average	3.3	87-89
B		3.0	81-86
B-		2.7	78-80
C+	Average	2.3	75-77
C		2.0	69-74
C-		1.7	66-68
D+	Below Average	1.3	63-65
D		1.0	57-62
F	Failure	0.0	00-56

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. No automatic cuts are authorized. Arrangements for excused absences must be made **Prior** to the absence.