



PHIL 2306-003IN
PHIL 2306-005IN
Introduction to Ethics

SPRING 2024
Asynchronous Online Course

Instructor Information: Brian Harding. bharding@com.edu

Student hours and location: I am off campus and can only be reached via email. Zoom appointments can be made as needed.

Required Textbook/Materials: All books will be available **free** in the course webpage

Course Description: The systematic evaluation of classical and/or contemporary ethical theories concerning the good life, human conduct in society, morals, and standards of value.

Course requirements: Three exams, four discussions five quizzes

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula: Grades are assigned based on the total of number of points a student earns in the class. Different assignments are worth different amounts of points

Test one:	100
Test two:	100
Test Three:	100
Discussion one:	20
Discussion two:	20
Discussion three:	20
Discussion four:	20
Quiz one	25
Quiz two	25
Quiz three	25
Quiz four	25
Quiz five	25
TOTAL	505

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy: Extra credit is only available via the syllabus quiz. Late work will be assessed *with* a penalty that increases the longer it is late. *Do not turn in late work without telling me -- if I don't know that you turned it in, I can't grade it.*

Attendance Policy: This is an online class; you should log in regularly and participate

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Exam I-3
2. Define and appropriately use important terms such as relativism, virtue, duty, rights, utilitarianism, natural law, egoism, altruism, autonomy, and care ethics.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Discussions
3. Demonstrate knowledge of major arguments and problems in ethics.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Quizzes
4. Present and discuss well reasoned ethical positions in writing.	Communication Skills (CS3)	Discussions
5. Apply ethical concepts and principles to address moral concerns.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Quizzes

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams or any other assignment– is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on that assignment and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action. Any additional occurrence after the first instance of academic dishonesty will result in failure of the course

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your

concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Dr. Brian Anderson, Humanities Chair, banderson@com.edu or 409-933-8186.

Course outline:

Schedule of Reading and Assignments

WEEK 1: Familiarize yourself with 'Housekeeping' and take syllabus quiz.

WEEK 2-4: We will go over books 1-4 of Plato's *Republic*; Quiz one.

WEEK 5-6: We will go over books 5-8 of Plato's *Republic*, Discussion boards 1 and 1.5 will be due, as will the second quiz.

WEEK 7-8: We will go over book 9 and 10 of Plato's *Republic* and take the test.

WEEK 9: SPRING BREAK (March 11-17)

WEEK 10-11: We will go over Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*, books 1-4; discussion board 2 and quiz 3

WEEK 12-13: We will go over Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*, books 5-7

WEEK 14-15: We will go over Aristotle's *Ethics*, books 8-10 (you can probably skip 9 tbh), quiz 4, and take the test.

WEEK 16: We will go over Machiavelli's *Prince*; discussion board 3 and quiz 5; Machiavelli test.

Please note: I didn't list the due dates for the quizzes or discussion boards. You will have to look at the course calendar for specific dates. This is just a general outline so you can see how the course will proceed and plan your studies.

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should **first** be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2023-2024_v2.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Kimberly Lachney at 409-933-8919 or klachney@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is February 28. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 22. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is May 1. The last date to withdraw for spring mini session is May 29.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.