

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
Undergraduate Course Outline 2020-21

Phil 2700F (001):
An Introduction to Ethics and Value Theory

DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the attempts by scholars to understand whether, and the degree to which, humans can/should be held responsible for their actions. Do humans have ethical duties and responsibilities toward one another or themselves? If so, what are the foundations of those ethical duties, and what do they demand? Our survey of the scholarly responses to these questions will be separated in two parts: First a review of prominent positions on meta-ethics, followed by a survey of the five dominant ethical theories.

TEXTS

Wilfrid J. Waluchow, *The Dimensions of Ethics; An Introduction to Ethical Theory*. (Broadview Press, 2003).

H. Geirsson and M.R. Holmgren, *Ethical Theory: A Concise Anthology*. 3rd ed. (Broadview Press, 2018)

LATE PENALTIES

Essays – An essay will be considered late if it is not submitted to OWL by the time specified on the assignment description. Late essays will be penalized at a rate of **five** percentage points per day (weekends included), to a maximum of 10 days (or 50%), at which point a grade of 0 will be entered.

Exams – The three exams will all take place using the ‘Tests and Quizzes’ function on OWL. If an exam is only partially completed by the time specified, the completed portion will be graded, and the incomplete portion will receive 0. If an exam is missed, a grade of 0 will automatically be recorded.

DUE DATES

Essays – 1. Friday Oct. 23rd at 11:55 p.m.
2. Friday Nov. 27th at 11:55 p.m.

Exams – 1. Thursday Oct. 1st from 9 a.m. – Tuesday Oct 6th at 11:55 p.m.
2. Thursday Nov 12th from 9 a.m. – Tuesday Nov 17th at 11:55 p.m.
3. December Exam Period, to be scheduled by the Office of the Registrar

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY POLICIES

The **Department of Philosophy Policies** which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Philosophy courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Philosophy website at <http://uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/policies.html>.

It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Philosophy, and thus ignorance of these policies ~~cannot be used as grounds for an appeal~~ cannot be used as grounds-

ACCOMMODATION

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student’s Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

