

**SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVISION OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

Humanities

Revision Date: 07-01-19

[Syllabus Statements](#)

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Course Number: PHIL1060

Course Title: Applied Ethics

Prerequisite(s): None

Catalog Description: Introduction to different approaches to moral decision-making and how to tell the difference between good and bad reasoning in applied ethics. Includes some of the most recent philosophical writings on a variety of issues.

Credit Hours: 3.0

Class Hours: 45

Lab Hours: 0

Total Contact Hours: 45

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES: *Course will:*

- A. Examine the philosophical study of ethics and how philosophers go about evaluating ethical arguments.
- B. Survey some of the current issues in ethics and some of the various arguments for and against these current issues.
- C. Explore the rational and critical enterprise of evaluating ethical arguments.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES

A. Student Learning Outcomes: *Student will be able to:*

- 1. Recognize the ethical arguments of some of the current issues in ethics.
- 2. Critically evaluate arguments offered in current ethical debates.
- 3. Understand and appreciate the various positions taken in current ethical discussions
- 4. Evaluate and justify these issues in a meaningful way orally or in writing.

B. General Education Learning Outcomes

1. GELO #2: Written Communication

Outcome: Comprehend, analyze, and evaluate a given text.

Outcome: Develop a focused thesis statement and write with a clear purpose, using relevant examples, claims, and evidence.

2. GELO #3: Critical Thinking & Problem Solving

Outcome: Evaluate ideas presented in writing, media, speech, or artistic presentations.

Outcome: Evaluate the validity of arguments, alternatives, data, outcomes, and/or impacts of actions.

3. GELO #4: Global Awareness and Citizenship

Outcome: Identify and evaluate different theoretical or philosophical perspectives and their relevance to ethical decision-making.

IV. CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE (*course outline may provide more detailed information*)

A. Fundamental Issues in Morality

- 1. Moral Reasons
- 2. Good reasoning

B. Morality and Contemporary Social Thought

- 1. Sexual morality: traditional vs. libertarian views.
- 2. Abortion as a biological and moral issue: prolife vs. prochoice arguments
- 3. Definition of personhood and death: voluntary vs. non-voluntary euthanasia

4. Moral and legal issues of Stem Cell research and Human cloning
5. The nature, definition and moral acceptability of punishment: abolitionist vs. retentionist arguments against/for Capital Punishment.
6. War, Terrorism and Civil Liberties: arguments for and/or against trading civil liberties for safety.
7. Defining Welfare and social justice: arguments for and against welfare.
8. Nature and forms of discrimination: arguments for and against Affirmative Action
9. Animal rights and environmental ethics: arguments for and against Ethical treatment of animals and the environment.
10. Computer Ethics and the Internet: arguments in favor and/or against ethical conduct with computers and the Internet.

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Required Text(s):
1. Timmons, Mark, *Disputed Moral Issues: A Reader*, New York: Oxford University Press, 3rd edition, 2014. ISBN 13: 978-0199946792.
- B. Other resources
1. Handouts supplied by instructor or web address links for appropriate philosophy websites.
 2. Outside reading/Research required: a research paper based on an appropriate topic for the course along with smaller essays based on the course readings, lectures, documentaries, films and discussions.

VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION

- A. Methods of presentation typically include a combination of the following:
1. Lectures
 2. Small and large discussion groups
 3. Collaborative projects
 4. Research
 5. Peer response
 6. Essays
 7. Student presentation on assigned projects

VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Methods of evaluation typically include a combination of the following:
1. In-class and collaborative project participation
 2. Daily work
 3. Quizzes and tests
 4. Oral and written assignments
- B. SCC GRADING SCALE
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|----|--------|----|-------|---|------------|
| A+ | 95-100 | C+ | 75-79 | F | 59 or less |
| A | 90-94 | C | 70-74 | | |
| B+ | 85-89 | D+ | 65-69 | | |
| B | 80-84 | D | 60-64 | | |

VIII. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- A. General Requirements
1. To receive a passing grade, students must complete all work assigned by the instructor, and attend class within instructor guidelines.
 2. Content, assessment and schedule determined by Instructor.