



**Division of Philosophy, Humanities and Library Sciences
Philosophy Department**

<https://www.hccs.edu/programs/areas-of-study/liberal-arts-humanities--education/philosophy/>

Phil 2289: Academic Cooperative | CRN 12959

Semester 2019 | 16 Weeks Aug 26 – Dec 15

Spring Branch | Room 206

Fridays 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

2 credit hours

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor: Jason Jenson
Office: Alief, C408
HCC Email: Jason.jenson@hccs.edu

Office Phone: 713-718-6771
Office Hours: by appointment
Office Location: Alief

COACHES:

Jason Jenson

Learning Web Page:
<https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/Jason.jenson>

Email: jason.jenson@hccs.edu

Cinnamon Jenson

Learning Web Page:
<https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/cinnamon.jenson>

Email: cinnamon.jenson@hccs.edu

Office hours: Spring Branch, Commons Building room 803.
Monday- Thursday 12:30 – 3:00

What's Exciting About This Course

The Ethics Bowl is a nationally-recognized debate-style competition among teams that compete with local and national colleges. This class prepares you for the competition by discussing and applying ethical theories in order to defend positions for and against cases drawn from current events including social and political issues (voting rights, animal rights, death penalty, gun control), environmental concerns (sustainable growth and development), and professional and civic issues (hiring practices, informed consent, LGBT rights). This course stresses the HCC Core Objectives of Critical Thinking, Communication Skills, Personal and Social Responsibility, and Civic Engagement.

Prerequisites and/or Co-Requisites

ENG 1301 or higher. Phil 1301 or 2306.

Canvas Learning Management System

This section of PHIL 2289 will use [Canvas](https://eagleonline.hccs.edu) (<https://eagleonline.hccs.edu>) to supplement in-class assignments, exams, and activities.

YOU MUST SET YOUR CANVAS NOTIFICATIONS TO ACCEPT EMAILS, DISCUSSION BOARD TOPICS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ACCESSING EAGLE ONLINE (CANVAS):

This is a *web-enhanced* lecture course that uses *Eagle Online Canvas*. The *Eagle Online Canvas* login page is: <https://eagleonline.hccs.edu/>

Or, from the main HCC website (www.hccs.edu) --> on the top vertical toolbar click "student sign-ins" --> Sign in using your user ID and password--> click "Eagle online (canvas)" tool. You will automatically be assigned Canvas page to each of your classes at HCC.

Your Eagle Online username is your HCC email address. Your password is the same password you use to log in to PeopleSoft, HCC Webmail, and Active Directory (computer terminal login). For any questions about your Eagle ID or password, please go check online www.hccs.edu/district/students/student-e-mail/eagle-id/.

NOTE: Eagle Online works best with the latest version of Mozilla Firefox. Download it free, www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT: <http://www.hccs.edu/online/technical-support/> or 713-718-5275

HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet and Canvas. USE **[FIREFOX](#)** OR **[CHROME](#)** AS THE INTERNET BROWSER.

HCC Online Information and Policies

Here is the link to information about HCC Online classes including the required Online Orientation for all fully online classes: <http://www.hccs.edu/online/>

Scoring Rubrics, Sample Assignments, etc.

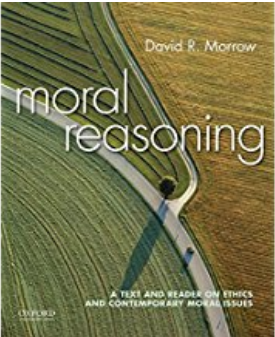
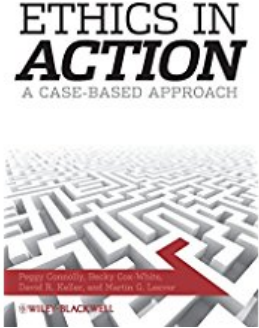
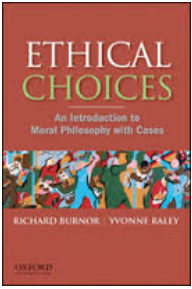
Look in Canvas for the scoring rubrics for assignments, samples of class assignments, and other information to assist you in the course. <https://eagleonline.hccs.edu/login/ldap>

Instructional Materials

Textbook Information

All handouts, readings, and materials will be available in class or on our Canvas course.

RECOMMENDED READING:

<p>Morrow, David. 2018. "Moral Reasoning: A text and reader on ethics and contemporary moral issues. Oxford Press.</p> 	<p>Connolly, Cox-White, Keller, Leever (eds.) 2009. Ethics in Action: A case-based approach. Wiley Blackwell.</p> 	<p>Burnor, Raley (eds). 2011. Ethical Choices: An introduction to Moral Philosophy with cases. Oxford. (2nd edition is best).</p> 
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Tutoring

HCC provides free, confidential, and convenient academic support, including writing critiques, to HCC students in an online environment and on campus. Tutoring is provided by HCC personnel in order to ensure that it is contextual and appropriate. Visit the [HCC Tutoring Services](#) website for services provided.

Libraries

The HCC Library System consists of 9 libraries and 6 Electronic Resource Centers (ERCs) that are inviting places to study and collaborate on projects. Librarians are available both at the libraries and online to show you how to locate and use the resources you need. The libraries maintain a large selection of electronic resources as well as collections of books, magazines, newspapers, and audiovisual materials. The portal to all libraries' resources and services is the HCCS library web page at <http://library.hccs.edu>.

Supplementary Instruction

Supplemental Instruction is an academic enrichment and support program that uses peer-assisted study sessions to improve student retention and success in historically difficult courses. Peer Support is provided by students who have already succeeded in completion of the specified course, and who earned a grade of A or B. Find details at <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/supplemental-instruction/>.

Course Overview

An instructional program designed to integrate on-campus study with practical hands-on work experience. In conjunction with class seminars, the individual student will set specific goals and objectives in the study of philosophy. This course stresses the HCC CORE Competencies of reading, writing, speaking, listening, critical thinking, and computer literacy

Core Curriculum Objectives (CCOs)

This course satisfies the Component Area Option in the HCC Core Curriculum. If you are not sure that you need this course to graduate, please consult with your advisor.

PHILOSOPHY COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Read, analyze, and critique current ethical debates.
2. **Apply** knowledge of key concepts, major arguments, problems, and terminology of various ethical theories. You will be able to **define, explain, critique and apply** foundational arguments from ethical theories such as Utilitarianism, Deontology, Theories of Justice, Cultural Relativism, Egoism, and Virtue Ethics.
3. Demonstrate **critical thinking skills** in evaluation and presentation of ethical theories to various current cases such as environmental ethics, bioethics, and political and social issues. Practice critical thinking skills that will improve personal empowerment, engage in civic duty, think independently, and defend against faulty reasoning.
4. **Present** logically persuasive arguments both orally and in writing. You will be able to **express, support, and defend** a position in your assignments and discussions while acknowledging its weaknesses and realizing that your position is *fallible* (that is, it can and should change given new evidence and information). Hopefully, you will begin to feel comfortable making decisions in spite of an uncertainty of knowledge.
5. Evaluate the personal and social responsibilities of living in a diverse world in terms of the philosophical issues raised in the cases. Practice **civic engagement** in learning about current debates and apply these issues to your daily life.
6. Gain experience in writing, leadership, public speaking, interpersonal skills, and teamwork.

Student Success

Assignments, Exams, and Activities

ASSESSMENTS:

Attendance and participation	50%
Ethics Bowl Journal and Case Analyses	50%

50% ATTENDANCE, IN-CLASS and OUT-OF-CLASS PARTICIPATION and DISCUSSION.

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All Academic Cooperative in Philosophy classes require students to spend out-of-classroom time engaging in civic and community issues, including researching current debates and practicing applied ethics. This includes time spent at the competition, and weekly preparation that you and your team will arrange.

Expect to spend at least twice as many hours per week outside of class as you do in class studying the course content. **IT IS REQUIRED THAT YOU MEET WITH YOUR TEAMMATES DURING THE WEEK.** That means that you will meet with via phone, Skype, Facetime, Google Docs, Canvas chat, collaborations, discussion posts, in-person meetings, etc.). Each week you will prepare 2-3 Ethics Bowl cases with your team in out-of-class meetings Class time will mainly be used to practice your team presentations and commentaries, and cover appropriate materials about ethical theories, speaking skills, etc.

Please keep in mind that students have varying levels of commitment and goals for this course. Some students may be sitting in on the class; some may plan to dedicate more or less hours to prepare. Some may want to be responsible for several cases. Some may be in class for the experience but will not be joining us for the competition. Team work requires communication, so be sure to discuss your goals and level of commitment with your teammates. Feel free to discuss with your coach any concerns about preparation for the competition.

READING.

All reading material and media are posted in MODULES, in the Canvas web page. Use these readings as resources: Gain what you need to supplement your understanding of ethical theories. You are encouraged to research ethical theories online, in the library databases, etc.

JOURNALS.

Your case studies preparations will be compiled via assignments, discussion pages, case analyses, dialect charts, index cards, word processor files, Google-docs (called "Collaborations" on Canvas). It is a good idea to print your work on the presentations for which you are responsible and compile them into a notebook "Journal." You will be provided with binders to house your work and other handouts. This is not a requirement: Use what you need.

Course Calendar

Weekly meetings on Fridays (the schedule is flexible if needed). Expect to prepare 2 cases per week during September and October.

Sept 2: The 2019 cases will be released around September 2.

Nov 8-10: The Texas Regional Ethics Bowl competition will be held in San Antonio the second weekend of November. Nov 8-10. The competition is Saturday morning. Our trip is Friday – Sunday. A bus will be scheduled. If you prefer, you may drive yourself or carpool. You may also bring friends or family! Please let the coaches know your plans, as HCC reserves bus tickets. Two hotel rooms will be reserved. Details are in our Canvas course.

Instructor's Practices and Procedures

Academic Integrity

An important skill that you need throughout your career is the ability to cite properly. The currency of academics is their ideas. That means that if you do not give credit to authors for their ideas, then you are stealing. I will provide instructions for citation and bibliography throughout your Argument Essay instructions. You may also use the APA manual online at: <http://www.apastyle.org/> or

<http://PurdueOwl.org>. For proper grammar, use the Elements of Style by Strunk and White, online at: <http://www.bartleby.com/141/>

See the following for additional information for what counts as plagiarism:

<http://plagiarism.org/> and <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/1/>

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. A student who is academically dishonest is claiming an advantage not available to other students. The instructor is responsible for measuring each student's individual achievements and also for ensuring that all students compete on a level playing field. Thus, in our system, the instructor has teaching, grading, and enforcing roles. You are expected to be familiar with HCC's policy on Academic Dishonesty located at <http://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/>

Pleading ignorance of the rules, including improper documentation (MLA, APA, etc.) is no justification for academic dishonesty.

Students who plagiarize, collude, or cheat may or may not have an opportunity to resubmit their work and may receive a grade of 0 for the first assignment, an F in the course for a second assignment, and a report in our Maxient system which could lead to dismissal from the college.

Attendance Procedures

Please email or call your coaches and teammates if you cannot attend meetings.

PHILOSOPHY Program Information

Philosophy club: Facebook: Philosophy club

HCC Philosophy Conference: <https://learning.hccs.edu/programs/philosophy/hcc-philosophy-humanities-conference/2019>

Ethics Bowl: <https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/cinnamon.jenson/ethics-bowl>

HCC Policies

Here's the link to the HCC Student Handbook <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/> In it you will find information about the following:

Academic Information	Incomplete Grades
Academic Support	International Student Services
Attendance, Repeating Courses, and Withdrawal	Health Awareness
Career Planning and Job Search	Libraries/Bookstore
Childcare	Police Services & Campus Safety
disAbility Support Services	Student Life at HCC
Electronic Devices	Student Rights and Responsibilities
Equal Educational Opportunity	Student Services
Financial Aid TV (FATV)	Testing
General Student Complaints	Transfer Planning
Grade of FX	Veteran Services

EGLS³

The EGLS³ (Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System) will be available for most courses near the end of the term until finals start. This brief survey will give invaluable information to your faculty about their teaching. Results are anonymous and will be available to faculty and division chairs after the end of the term. EGLS³ surveys are only available for the Fall and Spring semesters. EGLS³ surveys are not offered during the Summer semester due to logistical constraints.

<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/>

Campus Carry Link

<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/police/campus-carry/>

HCC Email Policy

When communicating via email, HCC requires students to communicate only through the HCC email system to protect your privacy. If you have not activated your HCC student email account, you can go [to HCC Eagle ID](#) and activate it now. You may also use Canvas Inbox to communicate.

Housing and Food Assistance for Students

Any student who faces challenges securing their foods or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students at their college for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable HCC to provide any resources that HCC may possess.

Office of Institutional Equity

Use the link below to access the HCC Office of Institutional Equity, Inclusion, and Engagement (<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/>)

disAbility Services

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including long and short term conditions, mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible in order to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. For more information, please go to <http://www.hccs.edu/support-services/disability-services/>

Title IX

Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to:

David Cross
Director EEO/Compliance
Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity
3100 Main
(713) 718-8271
Houston, TX 77266-7517 or Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu
<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/title-ix-know-your-rights/>

Office of the Dean of Students

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Contact the office of the Dean of Students to seek assistance in determining the correct complaint procedure to follow or to identify the appropriate academic dean or supervisor for informal resolution of complaints.

<https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-complaints/speak-with-the-dean-of-students/>

Department Chair Contact Information

The Ethics Bowl coaches and participants would like to thank Philosophy department administrative assistant Morgan Yette, the Philosophy Chair Helen Graham, and the Dean of the department of Humanities, Philosophy, and Library Sciences Ted Hanley for making this class and experience possible.

Helen Graham, Ed.D.
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Houston, TX 77013

<http://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/helen.graham>