



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

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

Phil 2306: Introduction to Ethics | Lecture | #16684

Fall 2020 | 16 Weeks Aug. 24 to Dec. 13, 2020

Distance Learning

3 Credit Hours | 48 hours per semester

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Lamont Rodgers

Office Phone: 713-718-5598

Office: Learning Hub Room 305

Office Hours: By appointment

HCC Email: lamont.rodgers@hccs.edu

Office Location: Stafford Campus

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear the concerns and just to discuss course topics.

Instructor's Preferred Method of Contact

Lamont.rodgers@hccs.edu

I will respond to emails within 24 hours Monday through Friday; I will reply to weekend messages on Monday mornings. (THIS SECTION MAY BE EDITED BY INSTRUCTOR)

Prerequisites and/or Co-Requisites

ENGL 1301

Canvas Learning Management System

This section of PHIL 2306 will use [Canvas](https://eagleonline.hccs.edu) (<https://eagleonline.hccs.edu>) to supplement in-class assignments, exams, and activities.

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 course material is provided in Canvas

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

This is a systemic evaluation of classical and/or contemporary ethical theories concerning the good life, human conduct in society, morals, and standards of value. This course provides a practical, community-minded introduction to questions of character and human excellence in a multi-cultural, global environment. Traditional and contemporary views concerning the nature of goodness, happiness, duty, and freedom serve as points of departure for this largely thematic inquiry into right conduct and ways of thinking that leads to that conduct.

Core Curriculum Objectives (CCOs)

This course satisfies the Philosophy, Language, and Culture component area or 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.

Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

1. Demonstrate knowledge and an understanding of arguments, problems, and terminology in philosophy.

2. Analyze and critique philosophical texts in ways that demonstrate an awareness of argument structure and the evaluation of philosophical claims.
3. Present logically persuasive arguments orally and in writing that are relevant to philosophical issues covered in course material.
4. Evaluate personal and social responsibilities of living in a diverse world in terms of the philosophical issues raised in course material.
5. Apply relevant ethical theories to daily activities, and to issues in contemporary debates.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)

1. Read, analyze, and critique philosophical texts.
2. Define and appropriately use important terms such as relativism, virtue, duty, rights, utilitarianism, natural law, egoism, altruism, autonomy, and care ethics.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of major arguments and problems in ethics.
4. Present and discuss well-reasoned ethical positions in writing.
5. Apply ethical concepts and principles to address moral concerns.
6. Apply course material to various aspects of life.
7. Discuss ways of living responsibly in a world where people have diverse ethical beliefs.

Learning Objectives

- 1.1 Read** canonical texts and contemporary articles in the philosophical tradition of ethics.
- 1.2 Analyze, discuss, and critique** philosophical texts and ethical questions through open annotation exercises, papers, and discussion forums.
- 1.3 Analyze and critique** philosophical texts and practical ethical questions in papers and tests.
- 2.1 Learn** basic philosophical vocabulary, major arguments, and positions in philosophical ethics.
- 2.2 Recognize** key concepts in regular quizzes.
- 2.3 Demonstrate understanding** of key arguments and claims made by philosophers studied in the course through papers and assignments.
- 3 Present** logically persuasive arguments in papers and tests.
- 4.1 Engage** in critical thinking through discussion forums, papers, and tests.
- 4.2 Demonstrate** critical thinking skills in all written work.
- 5.1 Consider** the impacts of philosophical ideas on personal and social responsibility in papers and discussion forums.
- 5.2 Apply** philosophical concepts discussed in the course to personal and contemporary issues, demonstrating a concern for social and personal responsibility in written work.

Student Success

Expect to spend at least twice as many hours per week outside of class as you do in class studying the course content. Additional time will be required for written assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

- Reading the textbook
- Attending class in person and/or online by the relevant deadlines
- Completing assignments
- Participating in class activities
- Abiding by the policies on this syllabus

There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as a guide.

Instructor and Student Responsibilities

As your Instructor, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through learner-centered instructional techniques
- Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and making up assignments
- Provide the course outline and class calendar that will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

As a student, it is your responsibility to:

- Attend class in person and/or online
- Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with me
- Read and comprehend the textbook
- Complete the required assignments and exams
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts, and all assignments
- Be aware of and comply with academic honesty policies in the HCCS Student Handbook

Assignments, Exams, and Activities

Written Assignment

Term Paper: A term paper on a topic assigned by the instructor. (100 points). The due date is listed on the reading schedule. No late papers are accepted. If you are caught plagiarizing your term paper, you will receive a zero on it. There will be no second chances. Students caught engaging in plagiarism will also be entered into HCC's internal tracking system. Students who are caught engaging in academic dishonesty multiple times will be subject to discipline, which includes suspension and expulsion. Students who do not submit a term paper will fail the course. (100 points)

Exams

Three Exams: These exams are worth 30 points each. (90 points) These exams test knowledge of basic course concepts. They are completed in Canvas. The dates of each exam is on the reading schedule. They are not on the individual assignments. As a result, students must read the syllabus and abide by the deadlines. **No late work is accepted.**

Gateway Quizzes: 15 in-class assignments worth 10 points each. (150 total points) These will be completed in Canvas. The deadlines are on the syllabus. They are not on the individual assignments. As a result, students must read the syllabus and abide by the deadlines. **No late work is accepted.**

Students may take these gateway quizzes as often as they like. The highest score is recorded.

EGLS Survey: 10 points. I will send out information about the survey when it becomes available.

Final Exam

The third exam is the final exam.

Grading Formula

A = 90% to 100%

B = 80% to 89.9%

C = 70% to 79.9%

D = 60% to 69.9%

F = 0% to 59.9%

FX (Failure due to non-attendance)

IP (In Progress)

W (Withdrawn)

I (Incomplete)

AUD (Audit)

IP (In Progress) is given only in certain developmental courses. The student must re-enroll to receive credit. (Completed) is given in non-credit and continuing education courses.

I will allow a student to take an Incomplete in this class only if they have met all of the following conditions:

1. The student has a medical, legal, family, or personal emergency that prevents them from completing work for the course.
2. This issue occurs after the last day to withdraw.
3. The student has maintained good academic standing in the course up to that point.
4. The student requests an incomplete from the professor prior to the end of the course.
5. The student arranges a schedule for completing incomplete assignments in writing with professor

Additionally, any student who is unable to complete the course due to pregnancy can receive an incomplete, even if she does not meet the previous conditions.

HCC Grading Scale can be found on this site under Academic Information:
<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/>

Course Calendar

Aug 24th to Sept. 20th: Module 1 Work is due by the end of the day on September 20th. This includes Readings 1 through 4; Lectures 1 through 4; Gateway Quizzes 1 to 5; and Exam 1.

Sept 21st to Oct 25th. Module 2 work is due by the end of the day on October 25th. This includes Readings 5 through 7; Lectures 5 through 7; Quizzes 6 to 10; and Exam 2.

October 26th to Dec. 9th: Module 3 work is due by the end of the day on Dec. 9th. This includes Readings 8 through 10; Lectures 8 through 10; Quizzes 11 to 15; and Exam 3. The Term Paper must be submitted in Canvas by Dec. 9th.

Syllabus Modifications

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the semester and will promptly notify students in writing, typically by e-mail, of any such changes.

Instructor's Practices and Procedures

Missed Assignments

if there is a legitimate reason for missing class work or exams (death in family, serious illness, hospitalization, deployment) please let me know. You will be allowed to make up the work once documentation is provided.

Often things come up that are beyond our control. If you wait until the last minute to complete your work, there is a greater chance that work, family, computer issues, etc., will create a problem that causes you to miss the assignments.

I cannot stress this enough, you will NOT be given an extension for these issues. You must schedule your time appropriately. If you are having computer issues, computers may be used at the HCC campus as well as the public library. Again, missed assignments due to issues with technology will NOT be given an extension.

Academic Integrity

(Reference Student Code of Conduct) "Plagiarism" means the appropriation of another's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own work offered for credit. I take this very seriously. The first time you turn in work that is guilty of plagiarism your assignment will be given the score of zero and you will not be allowed to redo the assignment. The second time you turn in work that is guilty of plagiarism you will be

given a zero for the course. If you receive a zero for the course due to plagiarism, you will be reported to the Dean. If you are unclear what constitutes as plagiarism, please visit our library website at the following address:

http://library.hccs.edu/research_writing/plagiarism

Here's the link to the HCC information about academic integrity (Scholastic Dishonesty and Violation of Academic Scholastic Dishonesty and Grievance):

<http://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/>

PHILOSOPHY Program Information

Add program-specific information such as the following:

- PHIL Majors
- Careers in PHIL
- HCC PHIL Student Organizations
- PHIL Scholarships

Provide details for each or include links to the information

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

Here's the link to the HCC information about Campus Carry:

<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

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

Helen Graham, Ed.D.
713-718-7258
Codwell Hall room, 125
555 Community College Dr.
Houston, TX 77013

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