HCC

Instructional Services · Liberal Arts, Humanities and Education · Philosophy

Intro to Ethics-12573 PHIL-2306

F8B 2021   Section 0002   3 Credits   10/18/2021 to 12/12/2021   Modified 10/18/2021

🕐 Course Meetings

Course Modality

Online anytime

👤 Welcome and Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Nathan Smith

Email: nathan.smith2@hccs.edu
Office: Central Campus, Learning Hub 111.4
Phone: 713-718-2611
Website: https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/nathan.smith2 (https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/nathan.smith2)

Please feel free to contact me at any time during the semester. I find that if a student is struggling to understand a concept or assignment, a phone call or web conference is the easiest way to clear that up. I have set up the due dates in a way that will increase your chances of success. So, you ought to try to keep up with the syllabus. However, if you are unable to complete an assignment on time, please let me know in advance. This is a short session (8-weeks). If you fall behind, you will struggle to complete the course. *Don't get overwhelmed; get in touch.*

What's Exciting About This Course

Most students find this course challenging but rewarding. Everyone has thought about ethics at some point in their lives, but in this course, you will be presented with some questions about ethics that are new. Answering these questions and thinking through ethics in the way this course requires, will take effort, critical thought, comprehension of new concepts, and a willingness to reflect on your beliefs.

Preferred Method of Contact

I prefer to receive messages through the Canvas inbox. But if you need to use email, please use your HCC email account. I will respond to emails within 24 hours Monday through Friday. I will reply to weekend messages on Monday. If you have an urgent concern or something that requires more than you can express in email, don't hesitate to call or send a message through Microsoft Teams. If I'm not available, leave a message with a call-back number and time and I will get back in touch as soon as I can.

Office Hours

By appointment
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

🖥 Course Overview

Course Description

A philosophical reflection of the basic principles of the moral life, including traditional and contemporary views concerning the nature of goodness, happiness, duty, and freedom as they apply to individual right, business, medicine, and community well-being. This course satisfies the Language, Philosophy and Culture or Component Area Option of the HCC core.

Requisites

English 1302 or Department Approval

Department Website

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

◎ Core Curriculum Objectives (CCOs)

This course satisfies the Philosophy, Language, and Culture component area or the Component Area Option in the HCC Core Curriculum.

- *Critical Thinking*: Students will demonstrate the ability to engage in inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information, and creative thinking by completing a written assignment such as a book report, research paper, or essay.
- *Communication Skills*: Students will demonstrate effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication by completing a written assignment such as a book report, research paper, or essay.
- *Personal Responsibility*: Students will demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.
- *Social Responsibility*: Students will demonstrate cultural self-awareness, intercultural competency, civil knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities by completing textbook reading assignments, completing assignments, and answering questions on quizzes and exams that pertain to Course Student Learning Outcome #4 below.

📊 Student Learning Outcomes and Objectives

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.

☰ Departmental Practices and Procedures

Department Specific 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/or 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 course material
- Complete the required assignments and exams
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all assignments, this syllabus, handouts
- Be aware of and comply with academic honesty policies in the HCCS Student Handbook

Program-Specific Student Success Information

Attendance, preparedness, participation, and communication are essential for your success in this course. Preparedness and participation include carefully engaging with course material and assignments during course hours and on your own time. Attendance and communication with your instructor and your peers are vital. All of the above will ensure your growth in our community of learners where knowledge and skills are achieved through a process of mutual responsibility and involvement.

Academic Integrity

A student who is academically dishonest is, by definition, not showing that the coursework has been learned, and that student 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 participate 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 Honesty. What that means is that if you are charged with an offense, pleading ignorance of the rules will not help you. To be clear, plagiarism (using another's ideas or words without giving credit), collusion (unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit), and other forms of cheating will not be tolerated.

Students guilty of academic dishonesty may be given a grade of "F" or "0" for the particular assignment involved, assigned a failing grade in the course for repeated offenses, and/or referred to the Dean of Student Services for further disciplinary action. In extreme cases or for repeated violations, guilty students are recommended for probation or dismissal from the College.

Attendance Policy

HCC Policy is that you can miss up to but not exceed 12.5% of class hours, which is equivalent to 6 hours in this course. If you have not attended class before the official date of record, you will be automatically withdrawn from the course by the registrar. Students who are withdrawn for nonattendance will not be reinstated. Although it is your responsibility to withdraw from a course, the instructor has the authority to withdraw you for excessive absences. You may be withdrawn from a course after accumulating absences in excess of 12.5 percent of the total hours of instruction (6 hours for this course).

You are absent when you:

Online Anytime Courses (WW) - Fail to actively participate (including failure to submit assignments).

Online on a Schedule Courses (WS) – Fail to log in during your scheduled class time and/or fail to actively participate (including failure to submit assignments). Excessive tardies and leaving class early may count towards your allotted absences.

In Person Courses (P) – Fail to attend class. Excessive tardies and leaving class early may count towards your allotted absences.

Hybrid Courses (HY) – Fail to log in and actively participate during your scheduled class time and/or fail to attend your in-person class session. Excessive tardies and leaving class early may count towards your allotted absences.

Incomplete Policy

In order to be considered for a grade of Incomplete ("I"), a student must have completed at least 75% of the coursework with a passing grade. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor and to submit requisite work to complete the course and be assigned a grade. Student and instructor should execute a statement of work to be completed. A grade of Incomplete which has not been made up after six months from the end of the term in which the "I" was assigned will be converted to an "F." In all cases, the instructor reserves the right to decline a student's request to receive a grade of Incomplete.

Instructional Materials and Resources

Instructional Materials

All readings will be provided in electronic form in the Eagle Online shell. if you would like a print copy of the required reading materials, they can be made available at the HCC Bookstore.

Required Readings

Course Notes and Handbook, including selections from classic texts in the history of philosophy and professor notes on basic concepts in ethics. Creative Commons License, 4.0, Attribution.

Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics, ed. by G. Matthews, series ed. C. Hendricks. Rebus Community, 2019. Creative Commons License, 4.0, Attribution.

Aristotle. *Nicomachean Ethics* (selections). translated by W. D. Ross, complete text available at:
http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/nicomachaen.1.i.html

Dancy, Jonathan, "Moral Particularism", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2017 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL =
https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2017/entries/moral-particularism/

Kant, Immanuel. "Groundwork on the Metaphysics of Morals," Ch. 1 and 2, translated by J. Bennett, *Early Modern Texts*,
http://earlymoderntexts.com/authors/kant

Mill, John Stuart. *Utilitarianism* (selections). London: Longmans, Green, and Co., 1879. Complete text:
https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/11224

Ross, W. D. "The Basis of Objective Judgments in Ethics," *International Journal of Ethics*, 37: 2 (1927), pg. 113-27. Permalink to library resource:
https://www.jstor.org/stable/2377758

Recommended Readings

Held, Virginia. "Feminist Transformations of Moral Theory," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 50 (1990), pg. 321-44. Permalink to library resource: https://www.jstor.org/stable/2108046

Korsgaard, Christine. "The Right to Lie: Dealing with Evil," *Philosophy and Public Affairs,* 15: 4 (1986), pg. 235-49. Permalink to library resource:
https://www.jstor.org/stable/2265252

Nussbaum, Martha. "Non-relative Virtues: An Aristotelian Approach," preprint, The World Institute for Development Economics Research, 1987. [PDF in course]

Singer, Peter. "The Singer Solution to World Poverty." *New York Times Magazine*, Sep 05, 1999, pp. 60-6, 60:1. *ProQuest*,
https://search.proquest.com/docview/215501119?accountid=7036.

Course Requirements

Assignments, Exams, and Activities

Type	Weight	Topic	Notes

Type	Weight	Topic	Notes
First Week Check-in	5 pts		During the first week of the semester, you will be required to check in to the course by completing an introduction in the Student Lounge forum, completing your first quiz, and completing a group work survey. *These components are necessary for being counted present in the class*.
Quizzes	135 pts		Each section unit will require a quiz on the material covered in that section. You are responsible for having completed the assigned readings and understanding the key themes and concepts. You will be allowed 3 attempts per quiz.
Short Written Assignments	80 pts		There will be four short assignments at the beginning of the course. These assignments will be explained in detail in EagleOnline.
Group Work	60 pts		There will be three, short group assignments. I will divide the class into groups prior to the first assignment and you will use collaboration tools, like Google docs, to work on assignments in your group throughout the course.
Discussion Forums	50 pts		There will be five weekly discussion forums on topics related to the ethical issues we are studying.
Applied Ethics Discussion	20		You will the the choice of participating in one of three applied ethics discussion forums. You only need to respond to one of the three discussions.
Research Paper Project	150 pts		You will be required to complete a research paper on a topic of your own choosing (1500 words, citations included). You will select a topic in applied ethics or practical moral reasoning. You will do independent research on the internet and using the HCC libraries on your topic. This paper project will be broken into five assignments: 1. Topic proposal 2. Outline of argument 3. Annotated bibliography 4. Draft for peer review 5. Final paper
Final Exam	100 pts		## Multiple Choice Final An online final quiz will be generated using the questions from each of the unit quizzes. This final will consist of 50 questions and you will only be allowed 1 attempt. ## Written Final The final exam will consist of two long-form reflections on the semester. They will center around your work, your ethical views, and your interactions with your classmates. Grading criteria and detailed descriptions are provided in EagleOnline.
Extra Credit			Up to 10 bonus points will be awarded for the following: participation in an additional applied ethics discussion forum OR completion of an additional personal project. The total points any individual can receive is 10 points. BONUS FOR EGLS3 COURSE EVALUATION: I will award points to *everyone* in the class based on meeting a percentage of participation in the course evaluation. If 85% of the class completes the course evaluation, everyone will receive 5 points. If 100% of the class completes the course evaluation, everyone will receive 10 points.

Grading Formula

Grade	Range	Notes
A	540 to 600 pts	
B	480 to 539 pts	
C	420 to 479 pts	
D	360 to 419 pts	
F	000 to 359 pts	

✳ Instructor's Practices and Procedures

Incomplete Policy

In order to be considered for a grade of Incomplete ("I"), a student must have completed at least 75% of the coursework. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor or to submit requisite work to complete the course and be assigned a grade. Student and instructor should execute a statement of work to be completed. A grade of incomplete which has not been made up after six months from the end of the term in which the "I" was assigned will be converted to an "F." In all cases, the instructor reserves the right to decline a student's request to receive a grade of Incomplete.

Missed Assignments/Make-Up Policy

Late work will be **accepted with penalty**, unless I have receive a valid excuse or the student has arranged for late submission *prior to the deadline*. I will deduct 10% of the grade for the first day and 10% every week it is late after that.

Academic Integrity

A student who is academically dishonest is, by definition, not showing that the coursework has been learned, and that student 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 Honesty. What that means is that if you are charged with an offense, pleading ignorance of the rules will not help you. To be clear, plagiarism (using another's ideas or words without giving credit), collusion (unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit), and other forms of cheating will not be tolerated.

Students guilty of academic dishonesty can be given a grade of "F" or "0" for the particular test or assignment involved, assigned a failing grade in the course, and/or referred to the Dean of Student Services for further disciplinary action. In extreme cases or for repeated violations, guilty students are recommended for probation or dismissal from the College.

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

https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/ (https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/)

Faculty-Specific Information Regarding Canvas

This course section 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. For best performance, Canvas should be used on the current or first previous major release of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari. Because it's built using web standards, Canvas runs on Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS, Android, or any other device with a modern web browser.

Canvas only requires an operating system that can run the latest compatible web browsers. Your computer operating system should be kept up to date with the latest recommended security updates and upgrades.

Instructional Modalities

Online Anytime (WW)

Traditional online course without scheduled meetings

🏛 HCC Policies and Information

HCC Grading System

HCC uses the following standard grading system:

Grade	Grade Interpretation	Grade Points
A	Excellent (90-100)	4
B	Good (80-89)	3
C	Fair (70-79)	2
D	Passing (60-69), except in developmental courses.	1

Grade	Grade Interpretation	Grade Points
F	Failing (59 and below)	0
FX	Failing due to non-attendance	0
W	Withdrawn	0
I	Incomplete	0
AUD	Audit	0
IP	In Progress. Given only in certain developmental courses. A student must re-enroll to receive credit.	0
COM	Completed. Given in non-credit and continuing education courses.	0

Link to Policies in Student Handbook

Here's the link to the HCC Student Handbook https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/ (https://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

Link to HCC Academic Integrity Statement

https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/faculty/student-conduct-resources-for-faculty/ (https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/faculty/student-conduct-resources-for-faculty/)

Campus Carry Link

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

https://www.hccs.edu/departments/police/campus-carry/ (https://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 (https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-e-maileagle-id/) and activate it now. You may also use Canvas Inbox to communicate.

Office of Institutional Equity

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

Ability 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 https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/ability-services/ (https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/ability-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 (mailto:Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu)

http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/title-ix-know-your-rights/ (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/ (https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-complaints/speak-with-the-dean-of-students/)

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
- Completing assignments
- Participating in class activities

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.

Canvas Learning Management System

Canvas is HCC's Learning Management System (LMS), and can be accessed at the following URL:

https://eagleonline.hccs.edu (https://eagleonline.hccs.edu)

HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet and Canvas. For best performance, Canvas should be used on the current or first previous major release of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari. Because it's built using web standards, Canvas runs on Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS, Android, or any other device with a modern web browser.

Canvas only requires an operating system that can run the latest compatible web browsers. Your computer operating system should be kept up to date with the latest recommended security updates and upgrades.

HCC Online Information and Policies

Here is the link to information about HCC Online classes, which includes access to the required Online Information Class Preview for all fully online classes: https://www.hccs.edu/online/ (https://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 (https://eagleonline.hccs.edu/login/ldap)

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 during office hours, and 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 (https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/)

Sensitive or Mature Course Content

In this college-level course, we may occasionally discuss sensitive or mature content. All members of the classroom environment, from your instructor to your fellow students, are expected to handle potentially controversial subjects with respect and consideration for one another's varied experiences and values.

EGLS3

The EGLS[3] (Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System (https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for-current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/)) 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. EGLS[3] surveys are only available for the Fall and Spring semesters. ̶ EGLS3 surveys are not offered during the Summer semester due to logistical constraints.

https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/ (https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/)

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.

Student Resources

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 (https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/tutoring/) 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 https://library.hccs.edu (https://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 https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/supplemental-instruction/ (https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/supplemental-instruction/).

Resources for Students:

https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/communicable-diseases/resources-for-students/ (https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/communicable-diseases/resources-for-students/)

Basic Needs Resources:

https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/counseling/hcc-cares/basic-needs-resources/ (https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/counseling/hcc-cares/basic-needs-resources/)

Student Basic Needs Application:

https://hccs.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_25WyNx7NwMRz1FH (https://hccs.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_25WyNx7NwMRz1FH)

COVID-19

Here's the link to the HCC information about COVID-19:

https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/communicable-diseases/ (https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/communicable-diseases/)

Instructional Modalities

In-Person (P)

Safe, face-to-face course with scheduled dates and times

Online on a Schedule (WS)

Fully online course with virtual meetings at scheduled dates and times

Online Anytime (WW)

Traditional online course without scheduled meetings

Hybrid (H)

Course that meets safely 50% face-to-face and 50% virtually

Hybrid Lab (HL)

Lab class that meets safely 50% face-to-face and 50% virtually

📅 Course Calendar

Please pay attention to due dates. I have tried to make the due dates uniform, but in order to accommodate holidays and the term length, assignments may be due on a different day in any given week.

Class Check-in Assignments

Completion of these assignments is necessary in order for you to be counted as present and attending the course by the "Official Day of Record" on 10/25

Module 1: Basic Concepts

Readings: Course Notes and Handbook; *Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics,* Ch. 1.

Group Work Survey	10/20
Quiz 1	10/24
Assignment 1 (Moral Dilemmas)	10/24
Quiz 2	10/27
Group Work 1 (Overview of Ethics)	10/27

Module 2: Moral Reasoning

Readings: Course Notes and Handbook

Quiz 3	10/31
Assignment 2: Moral reasoning quiz	10/31
Group Work 2 (Reasoning through disagreement)	11/3

Module 3: Divine Command Theory

Readings: Plato, Euthyphro; Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics, Ch. 2.

Quiz 4	11/7
Assignment 3 (Divine Command Theory)	11/7

Module 4: Virtues Ethics:

Readings: Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, selections; *Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics*, Ch. 3.

Recommended reading: Nussbaum, "Non-Relative Virtues: An Aristotelian Approach"

Research Paper Proposal	11/10
Quiz 5	11/14

Module 5: Kantian Ethics:

Required reading: Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*, selections; *Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics*, Ch. 6.

Recommended: Korsgaard, "The Right to Lie: On Dealing with Evil"

Research Paper Outline	11/17
Quiz 6	11/21
Assignment 4 (Consequentialism or deontology)	11/21

Module 6: Utilitarianism:

Required reading: Mill, *Utilitarianism*, selections; *Introduction to Philosophy: Ethics*, Ch. 5.

Recommended: Singer, "The Singer Solution to World Poverty"

Research Paper Annotated Bibliography	11/24
Group Work 3 (Summarizing moral theories)	11/29
Quiz 7	11/29

Module 6, Applied Ethics

Paper Draft Peer Review	12/1
Quiz 8	12/5

Applied ethics Discussion Forum	12/5

Paper Project Final Draft	12/8
Written Final Exam	12/10
Multiple Choice Final Exam	12/10

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.

▤ Additional Information

Departmental/Program Information

The HCC philosophy program provides students opportunities to explore and cultivate open, critical ways to understand the search for truth and to examine the moral implications of thinking and action in an increasingly technologically driven multicultural world.

AWARD TYPES: Associate in Arts

AREA OF STUDY: Liberal Arts, Humanities & Education

Careers in Field

An undergraduate degree in Philosophy prepares graduates for careers which include writing, journalism, policy-making, teaching, law and business. Additional studies may be needed.

Transfer/Advising Plan

https://www.hccs.edu/finder/programs/transfer-advising-plan-for-philosophy-specialty-area---aa/
(https://www.hccs.edu/finder/programs/transfer-advising-plan-for-philosophy-specialty-area---aa/)

Student Organizations

Ethics Bowl
Philosophy Club

Scholarships

HCC

Monthly Scholarship Opportunities

HCC Foundation Scholarships

HCC Foundation Scholarships for F-1 Students

Eagle Promise – Free Degree Program

HCC Honors College Scholarship

Impact Scholarship

Chancellor Scholarship

Process for Expressing Concerns about the Course

If you have concerns about any aspect of this course, please reach out to your instructor for assistance first. If your instructor is not able to assist you, then you may wish to contact the Department Chair.

Dr. Helen Graham, helen.graham@hccs.edu, 713-718-7258