

Ethics
PH 105 02
Dr. Chitta R. Unni
Chaminade University of Honolulu
Fall 2001

Course Basics

- **Course Name:** Introduction to Philosophy
- **Course Code:** PH 105
- **Semester:** Fall 2001
- **Days:** MWF
- **Time:** 08:00-08:50 AM
- **Room:** H 223

Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 10-11 AM
 Tuesday and Thursday: 8-10 AM or by appointment.
 You may call Home: 941 8434, Office 735 4775, or Cell 561 4155.
 Office: Henry 206 A

Texts.

Jacques P. Thiroux, *Ethics: Theory and Practice*, 7th edition.

Recommended further reading.

- James Rachels, *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*, 3rd edition.
- James Rachels, *The Right Thing to Do*, 2nd edition.

Topics covered: Main Areas

- Ethics as a philosophical discipline.
- Normative and meta-ethical theories.
- Religious ethics.
- Deontological theory of ethics.
- Teleological theory of ethics.
- Concept of virtues.
- Ethics and metaphysics.
- Ethics and aesthetics.

Topics Covered: Applications

- Criminal justice systems.
- Ethical training of children.
- Ethical issues raised in bio-medical researches.
- Business ethics
- Media ethics.
- Environmental ethics.

Course Objectives

- Be able to distinguish good from bad arguments in practical reasoning.
- Identify the most central and general ideas in terms of which we think in ethics.
- Define the major theories of ethics.
- Resolve disputed situations by applying the major theories of ethics.
- Distinguish normative from meta-ethical theories.
- Understand how the relations between these ideas are structured.

- Have some detailed knowledge of such ideas freedom, rights and equality.
- Be able to understand the concept of judgment as applied in ethics..
- Show how ethics, politics and law are related and differ.
- Demonstrate the difference between ethical and aesthetic judgments.

Marianist Values.

- Chaminade University is dedicated the ideals of Fr. Joseph Chaminade the founder of the Marianist Catholic Order.
- The Marianist Values are:
 - Education for the formation of faith.
 - Excellence in education.
 - Educate in family spirit.
 - Educate for service, justice and peace.
 - Educate for adaptation and change.
- These values enter our discussions throughout.

Method of Teaching

- Explaining central ideas.
- Showing how to apply them.
- Relating to readings.
- Demonstrating competence.

Grading Standards

- The following grading standards are specified in Chaminade General Catalog 2000-2001, page 42
- A = Outstanding scholarship and an unusual degree of intellectual initiative.
- B = Superior work done in a consistent and intellectual manner.
- C = Average grade indicating a competent grasp of the subject matter.
- D = Inferior work of the lowest passing grade.
- F = Failed to grasp the minimum subject matter; no grades given.

Requirements

- Attendance 5%
- Participation 5%
- Homework 5%
- Quizzes 15%
- Tests 40%
- Midterm 10%
- Final 20%

Attendance

- Attendance will constitute 5% of the final course grade.
- Students missing 9 or more class sessions will receive no percentage points for attendance.
- Attendance will be recorded and absences reported in accordance with University policy.
- Students arriving 10 minutes late will receive 0 points for their attendance on that day.
- Students leaving before the class is over will receive 0 points for their attendance on that day.

Participation

- Participation will constitute 5% of the final course grade.
- Do the required readings on time and be prepared for quizzes and tests.
- Take the quizzes and tests regularly at the time when they are given.

- Submit all in-class projects and assignments on time, well edited and in proper format.
- Refrain from sleeping in class, reading material not relevant for the class or engaged in disruptive activities such as talking to others.
- Those who the above will be regarded as non-participants.

Homework

- Homework will constitute 5% of the final course grade.
- All assignments must be done in a neat and proper fashion, meeting any required format that is specified in the assignment.
- They should be submitted on time.
- Homework assignments not submitted on time will not be accepted.

Quizzes

- Quizzes will constitute 15% of the final course grade.
- They are short queries addressed to the student after a power point presentation of the day's lecture by the instructor.
- Their objective is to assess the student's grasp of what the instructor regards as the central point in that day's lecture.
- They are also designed to make students pay attention to class discussions, ask questions if they did not understand what was presented in a lecture and take notes of important ideas discussed by the instructor.

Tests

- All the tests taken together will constitute 40% of the final course grade.
- At the end of presenting each of the course objectives, there will be a test.
- The test objective is to assess the student's competence level for that particular course objective.
- The test dates are
- These tests are given in addition to any quizzes that may be given at the end of each power point presentation.
- Students arriving more than 5 minutes for the test will not be given the test.

Mid-Term

- The Mid-Term will constitute 10% of the final course grade.
- The Mid-Term will be a take-home project.
- It will be distributed in class.
- Late submission will carry a grade penalty.
- Submissions not meeting proper format will not be accepted.
- The proper format and due date will appear on the mid-term assignment.

Final

- The final will constitute 20% of the final course grade.
- The final will be administered on the day and at the time and place set by the registrar.
- Please consult the COURSE SCHEDULE you received from the authorities for the above details.

Make Up test.

- Students who missed tests will get one opportunity to make up their losses.
- A general make up tests will be given on.
- No other make up tests will be given.
- Students who miss this day will not be able to take any other make up tests.
- Students who come late for the make up tests will not be able to take it.

Special Project.

- Students may do one project as a special project for extra grade.
- Students are not required to do any special projects but any student may opt in favor of it.
- The special project will count up to 5% of the final grade.
- The project proposals must follow guidelines that will be distributed to the class by.

Test on submissions.

- If the instructor feels that the student's take home work submitted to him require a discussion with the student then the student should be prepared to meet with the instructor for such discussions.
- The grade for any take home submissions will be subject to the instructor determining that the student actually understands what he or she has written.

Use of e-mail.

- Students are expected to submit their take home projects in class personally to the instructor.
- The student may, with the instructor's permission submit his or her assignments through the <http://www.blackboard.com> course site.
- The way to use this site will be explained in class.
- E-mail is not a preferred format to submit assignments.
- E-mail submission in the form of attachments will not be acceptable.
- E-mails should be strictly restricted to brief communications with the instructor.

Course Grade

- The course grade will be computed from the overall performance of the student in the course.
- In computing it the grades from the quizzes, homework, midterm, and final will be taken into consideration.
- Attendance and participation will also count towards the course grade.
- The weight of each of these factors as specified will be applied in determining the final course grade.

Class Conduct

- Set any electronic devices to silent mode or turn them off.
- Sleeping or doing other unrelated work in class will cost points in terms of attendance.
- Students are expected to be in class on time, walking in late will disrupt the class.
- Please refrain from excessive talking or other conduct that will be a nuisance to others.
- A generally polite, friendly atmosphere will make our semester enjoyable.

Information About the Instructor

- Name:Dr. Chitta R. Unni
- Rank:Professor of philosophy
- Tel (H):941 8434
- Tel (O):735 4775
- e-mail: crunni@yahoo.com
- Office Hours:T and Th from 8-12 AM or by appointment.
- Office Location: Henry 206 (A)

Schedule of meetings

- 1 27-Aug M Pre-test and course objectives.

2	29-Aug	W	Situating ethics in philosophy.
3	31-Aug	F	Central terms in ethics.
4	5-Sep	W	Test (1)
5	7-Sep	F	Subjectivism, Relativism and Naturalism
6	10-Sep	M	Normative ethical theories.
7	12-Sep	W	Religious and philosophical approach to ethics.
8	14-Sep	F	Test (2)
9	17-Sep	M	Consequentialism
10	19-Sep	W	Utilitarianism
11	21-Sep	F	Quantitative and qualitative utilitarianism.
12	24-Sep	M	Test (3)
13	26-Sep	W	Duty ethics and rule utilitarianism.
14	28-Sep	F	Critique of utilitarianism
15	1-Oct	M	Critique of Kantianism.
16	3-Oct	W	Test (4)
17	5-Oct	F	Virtues: Christian
18	10-Oct	W	Virtues: Aristotelian
19	11-Oct	F	Virtue ethics.
20	15-Oct	M	Test (5)
21	13-Oct	W	Reward and punishment.
22	18-Oct	F	Setting up a moral system
23	22-Oct	M	Difficulties of a system.
24	24-Oct	W	Test (6)
25	26-Oct	F	Killing.
26	29-Oct	M	Death.
27	31-Oct	W	Abortion.
28	2-Nov	F	Test (7)
29	5-Nov	M	Lying, cheating and breaking promises.
30	7-Nov	W	Morality, marriage and human sexuality.
31	9-Nov	F	Ethics and human relations.
32	14-Nov	W	Test (8)
33	16-Nov	F	Bioethical researches.
34	19-Nov	M	Medical ethics.
35	21-Nov	W	Ethics and human body.
36	26-Nov	M	Test (9)
37	28-Nov	W	Business and media ethics.
38	30-Nov	F	Environmental ethics.
39	3-Dec	M	Animal rights.
40	5-Dec	W	Test (10)
41	7-Dec	F	Evaluations, Post-test.

ETHICS (PH 105) Fall 2001 Pre-Test. Instructor Dr. C. R. Unni

The following is administered to each student to collect statistical data regarding the effectiveness of the class in meeting educational objectives.

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Gender: Male Female Age _____

Major _____ Minor _____

Class Standing: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Race or ethnicity _____

Please respond to the following by marking the appropriate boxes.

If given a test today at what level will you be able to perform the following tasks? The levels are:

- A = Excellent
- B = Good
- C = Fair
- D = Barely
- F = Not at all

Statements	A	B	C	D	F
1. I can distinguish good from bad arguments in Practical reasoning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I can identify the central and general ideas in terms of which we think in ethics.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I can define the major theories of ethics.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I can resolve disputes about conduct by applying major theories of ethics.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I can distinguish normative from meta-ethical theories.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I understand the relations between central ideas of ethics.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. I can define the central notions in terms of which political theory is structured.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. I understand the concept of judgment as applied in ethics.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. I can compare ethics, politics and law.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. I can demonstrate the difference between ethical and aesthetic judgments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>