

# **EDU1166 Ethics, Intro.**

## **Course Syllabus**

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Ethics, Intro. is an introductory course. All students are eligible to take this course.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course inspects the profound study of ethics, including the rationale of right and wrong conduct, the system of value, and the theory of virtue and vice. Questions of moral impetus will be inspected. The student will be expected to reflect profoundly about ethical issues and quandaries, thus the student's capacity to rationalize should be heightened by this course.

You will contemplate many ethical questions in this course. How we ought to treat others, for instance. What are the distinct features of an activity that make it morally right or morally wrong? You will escalate your knowledge of ethical questions and theories. You will also advance your qualification to make knowledgeable resolutions, and to ruminate on what's significant.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

This course familiarizes students to fundamental questions in moral philosophy. Some of the queries that will be evaluated include: Is being a morally good person solely good for others or is it principally good for oneself? What type of acts are right, and what is a correct gauge of right and wrong? This course will help progress critical reading and reasoning skills. By the end of this course, all students should:

- Expound and appraise some of the leading ethical theories
- Illustrate some relevant questions and dilemmas in moral philosophy
- Establish and support clarifications of philosophical controversies
- Ask pertinent, critical questions about philosophical arguments
- Scrutinize and describe the rapport between "right", "good", "happiness", "autonomy", "virtue", "moral relativism", and "moral absolutism"
- Boost communication skills
- Heightened perception of oneself achieved

### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is mandatory for all students. Excellent attendance is imperative for mastery and application of the information dispensed. Whether you are sitting at a desk in a classroom or attending via Skype, your attendance is vital to your success. Late arrivals are distracting and disrespectful. Please refrain from being tardy. Grades will be affected by absences and tardiness. Participation in class is a prerequisite. You learn from lectures, discussions and presentations.

## **CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

Students are expected to treat all persons with respect. We should all conduct ourselves in a courteous and responsible manner. Be considerate, you can disagree, don't insult.

Please set all your electronic devices to silent during class so as not to be a disturbance to others in the class.

## **TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE**

We maintain an open-door policy for our students. We are absolutely willing to discuss any matter that may arise during the course. If you have any questions, problems, or need help with the course material, we urge you to reach out as soon as the issue arises. If you want to contest a grade, you must do so within 48 hours and put it in writing. Please ask your student advocate for help. If you do not have a student advocate send an email to: [tutordept@usilacs.org](mailto:tutordept@usilacs.org).

## **NON-DISCRIMINATORY STATEMENT**

All students regardless of age, race, gender, religion, physical disability, class, etc., shall have equal opportunity without harassment in this course. Any problems with or questions about harassment can be discussed confidentially via email at: [hr@usilacs.org](mailto:hr@usilacs.org).

## **DRESS CODE**

For students enrolled who are attending in a classroom or via Skype, please be sure you are dressed modestly and respectfully. Please refer to [www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/business%20casual](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/business%20casual). NO short shorts or skirts. Avoid low-cut tops. We want to present ourselves in a dignified manner at all times.

## **NETIQUETTE**

- Always read through all the comments of the class before responding. This will avoid duplicating comments or questions asked.
- Avoid language that could be offensive. All profanity is strictly prohibited. Remember that using all caps when replying online signifies shouting. This would be rude and combative.
- Be sensitive to the fact that there will be fellow students from all parts of the world with many differing backgrounds and languages. Remember that slang and idioms will most likely be misconceived and/or misinterpreted. These should be avoided.
- Respect others views or opinions.
- Be thoughtful of the privacy of others. Ask permission before sharing email addresses or other personal information.
- Do not forward inappropriate material such as: virus warnings, chain letters, jokes, etc. The sharing of pornographic material is strictly prohibited.
- Use good spelling and grammar. Avoid using texting shortcuts.

- Strive to compose your comments in a positive, supportive and constructive manner at all times.

Any of these offenses will be dealt with by the school disciplinary committee.

## **ADA ACCOMMODATIONS**

All reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with disabilities. Any student attending USILACS who needs an accommodation due to a chronic challenge (i.e. blindness, deaf or hard of hearing, mobility issues, psychological, or learning disability), register with:

USILACS Registrar's Office  
1221 Brickell Ave.  
Miami, FL 33131  
1-305-330-2202  
[registrarsoffice@usilacs.org](mailto:registrarsoffice@usilacs.org)

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY/CHEATING**

We encourage collaborating with others, either in person or online, to study and learn. When you complete your assignments or your exams, however, the wording has to be your own.

Plagiarism is the theft of someone else's work and ideas. You are permitted to cite or even quote someone else, however, you must properly cite them. There are two accepted ways of doing this. They are known as Modern Language Association (MLA) or American Psychological Association (APA). You can visit [www.citationmachine.net](http://www.citationmachine.net) for help in correctly citing information.

As a school that strives to maintain high moral standards, we strongly caution our students to be ethical and honest. Endeavor to be honest in conducting yourself in regard to any coursework you accomplish or exams you may take. Cheating is a dishonest practice.

## **REFERENCE MATERIALS**

The vast majority of textbooks are outdated by the time they are published. USILACS education programs are not based upon outdated printed textbooks. USILACS programs are based on the most accurate and reliable knowledge available; specifically, up-to-date vetted internet-based information.

For those who would like some reference or Internet search recommendations, we would recommend the following.

- (2016) The High Cost of Our Cheap Fashion. Maxine Bédard.
- (2015) Outline of Ethics. Wikipedia The Free Encyclopedia.
- (2014) Trust in research – the ethics of knowledge production. Garry Gray TEDxVictoria.
- (2014) Ethics-Evolutionary Ethics. Stuart A Burns

- (2014) Ethics: a general introduction
- (2013) Marla Spivak: Why bees are disappearing. Ted.
- (2003) Introduction to Ethical Studies. Lee Archie, John G Archie.

## **MINIMUM REQUIRED SUPPLIES**

All students will need all of the following:

- Computer with camera, microphone, and speakers.
- Skype installed on the computer with an active Skype account.
- Internet
- Printer
- Notebook paper
- Pens/pencils

If the student does not have a computer or internet, there will be some available for use at the school in the computer lab.

## **GRADING SYSTEM**

There will be three tests throughout the course. Each test will count for 33.3% of the final grade.

Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A+	99	4.0
A	97	3.8
A-	94	3.7
B+	89	3.3
B	85	3.0
B-	81	2.7
C+	77	2.3
C	73	2.0
C-	69	1.7
D	66	1.0
F	59	0.0

All students must earn at least a “D” in order to pass the class.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

*What is the Best Sort of Human Life? Paper-*

Think about and then write a paper describing what you feel is the best sort of human life. Tell what 10 things you feel would be the most important aspects to make the most satisfying and fulfilling life. This paper should be at least 1,000 words in length.

*Ethical Debate Paper-*

Pick a topic that holds much debate from the list.

- Abortion
- Existence of God
- Capital punishment
- Animal testing

- Ethnic adoption
- Plastic surgery
- The right to die
- Immigration

Pick your side of the debate and write an essay to persuade the reader to at least think about adopting your viewpoint. This paper should be at least 1,000 words in length.

### *Ethical Debate Paper 2-*

You will stick with the same topic that you used on the last paper. This time you will switch sides and write the paper from the opposite viewpoint. This paper should be at least 1,000 words in length.

## **WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS**

<b>Week 1</b>	Overview of course and coursework What is ethics? Morals? Virtue?
<b>Week 2</b>	Normative and descriptive ethics
<b>Week 3</b>	Applied and virtue ethics
<b>Week 4</b>	Meta-ethics <i>Best sort of human life paper due</i>
<b>Week 5</b>	<i>Video review and Exam</i>
<b>Week 6</b>	Moral emotivism and institutionists
<b>Week 7</b>	Moral prescriptivism and relativism
<b>Week 8</b>	Kant <i>Ethical Debate paper due</i>
<b>Week 9</b>	<i>Video review and Exam</i>
<b>Week 10</b>	Moral relativism and absolutism
<b>Week 11</b>	Moral realism
<b>Week 12</b>	Moral subjectivism <i>Ethical Debate paper 2 due</i>
<b>Week 13</b>	<i>Video review and Final exam</i>