

0101E103

Introduction to Ethics

Instructor: Irene A. Wolf

Time: Monday through Friday (June 15, 2020 - July 17, 2020)

Office Hours: 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

Contact Hours: 60 (50 minutes each)

Credits:4

Location: Huiquan Building

Office: Huiquan Building 518

Course Description

This course introduces the general nature of ethical thought, and its basic methods and goals. The material covered includes selections by both current and historically important theories including: Ethical Relativism, Ethical Universalism, Divine Command, Natural Law, Ethical Egoism, Utilitarianism, Deontology, Rights Ethics and Virtue Ethics. Through our readings and discussions, we will also attempt to reach a clearer understanding of ourselves (personal identity), our relationship to other people (moral responsibility), and our relationship to the world around us (freedom of the will). Some of the general skills students will develop include the formulating and defending of theoretical positions and the ability to think critically about difficult and abstract issues, besides becoming a better person. Finally, Aristotle states the ultimate reason to study Ethics is become well. Hopefully these studies will lead all of you to become better human beings.

Required Textbook(s)

Ethics for Life by Judith A. Boss, (New York, NY, McGraw Hill, 2014, 6th edition)
ISBN 978-0-07-803833-4.

Prerequisites

No prerequisites

Course Hours

The course has 25 sessions in total. Each class session is 120 minutes in length. The course meets from Monday to Friday.

Course Schedule

Please note that the schedule is meant to give an overview of the major concepts this course. Changes may occur in this calendar as needed to aid in the student's development.

Week 1

Monday	Introduction to the course, Chapter 1
Tuesday	Introduction to Philosophy Chapter 1 and 2
Wednesday	Chapter 3 Conscience
Thursday	Exam #1 Chapters 1-3 and Chapter 4 Ethical Subjectivism and Student Relativism
Friday	Review of Materials

Week 2

Monday	Chapter 5 Divine Command Theory and Civil Religion
Tuesday	Continue Chapter 5 and Commence Chapter 6 Cultural Relativism
Wednesday	Review and Chapter 7 Ethical Egoism
Thursday	Exam II on Chapters 4-6 and Continue on Chapter 7 Ethical Egoism
Friday	Review

Week 3

Monday	Continue with Chapter 7 Ethical Egoism
Tuesday	Chapter 8 Utilitarianism
Wednesday	Chapter 9 Natural Law Commence
Thursday	Chapter 9 Natural Law Theory
Friday	Review

Week 4

Monday	Exam #III on Chapters 7-9
Tuesday	Chapter 10 Deontology
Wednesday	Continue Deontology of Kant
Thursday	Continue Deontology of W.D. Ross
Friday	Review

Week 5

Monday	Chapter 11 Virtue Ethics
Tuesday	Continue with Virtue Ethics
Wednesday	Two Examples of Virtue Ethics
Thursday	Exam #4 Chapter 10 and 11; Comprehensive Question
Friday	Final Summation of Course

Course Requirements

Please note that attendance is mandatory. I will take roll every class. Students are allowed three absences. After that, there will be a five-point deduction for each absence.

Grading Policy

Exams

There will be four exams over the five-week term; each exam will be worth 20% of the final grade.

Attendance and Participation

The remaining 20% of the student's grade will be determined by regular attendance and participation in class. You are allowed 3 absences maximum for the course before dropping a letter grade. Full and prepared participation is expected. Attendance is mandatory in the class. Respect towards the instructor and classmates are expected. Unjustified absences, disrespectful behavior in the classroom and lack of participation in class will have a negative impact on the final grade.

Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90~100
Good	B	80~89
Satisfactory	C	70~79
Poor	D	60~69
Failed	E	Below 60

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory in the class. It would be recorded each class and forms part of students' participation record. Students should inform the instructor at the earliest opportunity if they need to ask for a leave. All absences may have negative effect on students' final grades. Any students with more than three unexcused absences will automatically fail the course.

Academic Integrity

As members of the Jinan University academic community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty, includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the

same paper, or a substantially similar paper, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging other students' work within these general definitions. Instructors, however, determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties that range from the lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.