

View Syllabus Information

Course Information					
Year	2022	School	School of International Liberal Studies		
Course Title	Introduction to Ethics 01				
Instructor	Stone, Richard				
Term/Day/Period	spring semester Wed.5				
Category	Philosophy, Religion and History	Eligible Year	1st year and above	Credits	2
Classroom		Campus	waseda		
Course Key	210PR20900	Course Class Code	01		
Main Language	English				
Class Modality Categories	[Emergency] Realtime Streaming				
Course Code	PHLM101Z				
First Academic disciplines	Philosophy				
Second Academic disciplines	Ethics				
Third Academic disciplines	Introduction				
Level	Beginner, initial or introductory	Types of lesson	N/A		

Syllabus Information Latest Update : 2022/03/01 16:43:06

Course Outline	<p>In this course, students will learn the basic skills needed to “think like ethicists” by engaging with classical problems in moral philosophy. By actively considering these problems, students will develop the capacities necessary to think through the difficult issues that arise over the course of both our personal lives and in our contemporary society. Furthermore, students will be expected to engage in various group discussions and practice exchanging their ideas on ethical issues with peers in order to deepen their understanding of the problems handled in class.</p>											
Objectives	<p>To obtain a basic understanding of key concepts and debates in moral philosophy. To improve critical thinking skills by assessing arguments used in ethical debates. To apply this critical attitude to real-world ethical problems and example cases. To practice engaging in constructive and critical discussions with peers.</p>											
before/after course of study	<p>Before each class begins, students will be expected to think carefully about one key question posed at the end of the preceding class. Additionally, students will be required to submit a brief answer (100~250 words) to this question over the internet.</p>											
Course Schedule	<p>This class will consist of an introductory lecture, three concluding lectures, and 3 main modules, each tackling a core question of ethical or moral philosophy. The schedule will be as follows:</p> <p>Introductory Class: 1)How do/can/should we study Ethics?</p> <p>Question 1: How can I know the “Right” thing to do? 2)By Cultivating Virtue (Virtue Ethics) 3)By Reason (Kantian Deontology) 4)By Calculating Pain and Pleasure (Utilitarianism)</p> <p>Question 2: Why should I be moral? 5)Because It Benefits Me (Egoism) 6)Because It Is Human Nature (Humanity and Conscience) 7)Because It Benefits Others (Empathy and Moral Sentimentalism) 8)Because It Keeps the Species Alive (Evolutionary Theory and Moral Psychology)</p> <p>Question 3: Am I free/responsible for my own actions? 9)I might be responsible for my own actions if I am free (Libertarianism, Determinism, and Compatibilism) 10)I am not free, but society has forced me to take responsibility anyway (Social Constructivism) 11)I am responsible for my own actions because I have rights (Rights and Obligations) 12)I am actually responsible for “everyone’s” actions (Communal Responsibility)</p> <p>Concluding Lectures: 13)Revisiting the Meaning of Ethics I (Ethical Problems in Contemporary Society) 14)Revisiting the Meaning of Ethics II (Ethical Problems in Contemporary Japan) 15)Wrap up</p>											
Textbooks	<p>There will be no assigned textbook for this course. Reading materials will be provided on a case-by-case basis by the instructor if deemed necessary.</p>											
Evaluation	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Rate</th> <th>Evaluation Criteria</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Exam: 0%</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Papers: 40%</td> <td>Final report (roughly 2~3 pages) answering one question handled in class. Points will be determined according to the logical rigor, originality, and organization of the argument.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Class Participation: 30%</td> <td>Participation will be determined according to student contributions to group discussions and asking questions in class.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Others: 30%</td> <td>Students will furthermore be evaluated on their ability to give thoughtful and constructive answers to the key question posed at the end of each week’s class.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Rate	Evaluation Criteria	Exam: 0%		Papers: 40%	Final report (roughly 2~3 pages) answering one question handled in class. Points will be determined according to the logical rigor, originality, and organization of the argument.	Class Participation: 30%	Participation will be determined according to student contributions to group discussions and asking questions in class.	Others: 30%	Students will furthermore be evaluated on their ability to give thoughtful and constructive answers to the key question posed at the end of each week’s class.	
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Note / URL	<p>-Classes will be held in real time online. However, this does not mean that students will merely listen to lectures over Zoom. Students will be expected to participate actively in class and during discussions. -Class lectures and topics will be liable to change, depending on student interests.</p>											