On-Campus Course Syllabus
PHI 460 L00.A
Moral Philosophy
Spring 2019

Class Information

Day and Time: Monday 1:30 – 4:00
Room Number: If Enrollment >12, E207; else President's Office

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Barry Creamer, Ph.D.
Instructor Email: bcreamer@criswell.edu
Instructor Phone: 214.818.1301
Instructor Office Hours: by appointment through number above, or immediately before or after class

Course Description and Prerequisites

An examination of the views of prominent philosophers regarding the moral life and the nature of morality. Emphasis is placed on what it means for humans to be moral beings, both as individuals and in community, covering aspects of political philosophy, and on the proper grounds and ultimate end of the moral life.

Course Objectives

Students completing this course should be able to

1) discuss intelligently a variety of moral theories and their fundamental distinctions,
2) explain the historical development of certain moral and ethical approaches,
3) demonstrate considerable proficiency about one particular moral theory or issue,
4) identify and explain the impact of different moral theories on culture, attitudes, and behavior, and to evaluate moral theories in the light of Christ, Christianity, and the Bible.

Required Textbooks

Relevant sections: from Sibley, Jack. *Classical Ethics for Contemporary Times*. (PDF available in CANVAS)

Recommended Reading

Kant, Emmanuel. *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*.
MacIntyre, Alasdair. *After Virtue*.
Mill, John Stuart. *Utilitarianism*.
Rawls, John. *A Theory of Justice*.
In all these resources, only the primary material matters. You are not expected to read front matter and commentary from editors about the authors or works.

Course Requirements and Assignments

- Readings: All students are responsible for reading assignments in Sibley before the class periods indicated. Reading summaries of one paragraph for each reading/philosopher/theory, a total of 10 to be submitted via CANVAS, will serve as evidence of completed readings. If a student misses an assigned reading or review, reviews of "recommended reading" materials may serve in their place. In that case, any section/chapter/unit chosen by the student of a recommended reading is sufficient—not the whole work. This requirement comprises 40 percent of the course grade.
- Mid-Term Exam: The mid-term exam is to be completed through CANVAS online before the class period for which it is scheduled. This requirement comprises 30 percent of the course grade.
- Final Exam: The final exam is to be completed through CANVAS online by the end of the class's scheduled final exam. The review the class period before this exam can be extremely helpful. Students may elect to submit a term paper between 1000 and 2000 words expanding on and evaluating one of the philosophers or theories raised during the course in lieu of the final exam, if the professor approves. This requirement comprises 30 percent of the course grade.

Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Professors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual professors may determine how attendance affects students' ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

Grading Scale

A	97-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour
A-	93-96	3.7 grade points per semester hour
B+	91-92	3.3 grade points per semester hour
B	88-90	3.0 grade points per semester hour
B-	86-87	2.7 grade points per semester hour
C+	83-85	2.3 grade points per semester hour
C	80-82	2.0 grade points per semester hour
C-	78-79	1.7 grade points per semester hour
D+	75-77	1.3 grade points per semester hour
D	72-74	1.0 grade point per semester hour
D-	70-71	0.7 grade points per semester hour
F	0-69	0.0 grade points per semester hour

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An "I" may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a

course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their professors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar's Office. The "I" must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the grade was assigned, or the "I" will become an "F."

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students' institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the professor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Resources and Support

Canvas and CAMS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and CAMS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with CAMS should contact the Campus Software Manager at bstifle@criswell.edu.

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. Pastoral and certified counseling services are also available to Criswell students. Appointments are scheduled through Dr. Jeff Campbell, Dean of Students, at jcampbell@criswell.edu.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, go to the library website, or email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu.

Writing Center: Students are encouraged to consult with writing tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence by practicing techniques of clear and effective writing. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Writing Center located on the first floor near the Computer Lab, or they can schedule an appointment by emailing writingcenter@criswell.edu or calling 214.818.1373.

Course Outline/Calendar

Reading/Lecture/Discussion Schedule (flexible according to discussion progress)

Date:	***Topic:***	***Sibley Readings and Discussion Topics:***	***Primary Readings***
01/28	Introduction: Ethics and Morality: One Model Some Applied Ethical Issues		
02/04	No class meeting		Get ahead on readings and presentations!
02/11	Classical Virtue and Hedonism	Plato Aristotle Epicurus	
02/18	Stoicism and Christian Ethics	Epictetus Aquinas	
02/25	Enlightenment Ethics	The Enlightenment Project	

	Egoism Altruism	Hobbes (Self-Interest) Butler	
03/04	Emotivism Utilitarianism	Hume Mill	Mill: Utilitarianism (pick a chapter among 2-5)
03/11	Spring Break		
03/18	Mid-Term Review and Synthesis Introduction to Rationalism		Kant "Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals" (Preface and Chapter 1)
03/25	**Mid-Term** The Categorical Imperative		Kant "Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals" (Chapter 2 and Chapter 3)
04/01	Existentialism Power	Kierkegaard Nietzsche	
04/08	Prima Facie Duty Moral Realism and the Euthyphro Question	Ross	MacIntyre "After Virtue" Chapters 1-6
04/15	Moral Nihilism and Divine Command Theory Supererogation		MacIntyre "After Virtue" Chapters 7-13
04/22	Rights-based Ethics Obligations beyond Rights Ethics, Personal Life, and Ministry	Egoism/Altruism and Conflicts of Interest	MacIntyre "After Virtue" Chapters 14-18
04/29	Ethics and Social Policy	Social Justice Economics and Politics Marriage and Sexuality	Rawls "A Theory of Justice" Chapter I. 1-4
05/06	Bioethics Final Review and Synthesis	Reproductive and Genetic Issues End of Life Issues	Rawls "A Theory of Justice" Chapter IV.
05/13	**Final Exam**		**Term Paper Due**