



On-Campus Course Syllabus  
PHI 301 LI  
Introduction to Ethics  
Fall 2021

### Class Information

**Day and Time:** Tuesday/Thursday, 8:00AM – 9:15AM  
**Room Number:** E211

### Contact Information

**Instructor Name:** Barry Creamer, Ph.D.  
**Instructor Email:** bcreamer@criswell.edu  
**Instructor Phone:** 214-818-1326  
**Instructor Office Hours:** 9:15AM – 10:00AM T/Th, and by appointment

### Course Description and Prerequisites

A study of the principal ethical theories and thinkers, basic ethical problems, and related biblical teaching.

### Course Objectives

Students completing this course should be able to:

1. demonstrate familiarity with the most significant ethical thinkers of Western Civilization,
2. explain important ethical theories and how they relate to each other,
3. apply ethical theories to current and practical moral challenges, and
4. evaluate ethics and moral decisions in the light of Christ, Christianity, and Biblical teachings.

### Required Textbooks

Kant, Emmanuel. *Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals*.

Sibley, Jack. *Classical Ethics for Contemporary Times: A Heuristic Approach*. (This supporting text is available as a PDF in Canvas. A printed copy may be requested from the professor.)

### Course Requirements and Assignments

1. Attendance. Because a significant portion of this course is about exposure to the material and concepts, attendance is a significant part of the grade in this course. (25% of final grade)
2. Reading summaries. Reading summaries will comprise a portion of the grade. Summaries must be completed before the date the readings are due on the syllabus, and are to be completed online. Summaries should be very brief; no more than a paragraph, and should reflect what the student is able to recall from the reading without having to go back and look up details. (25% of final grade)
3. Mid-term. The mid-term is to be completed online. (25% of final grade)
4. Final Exam. The final exam is comprehensive and to be completed online. (25% of final 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	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour
B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour
D-	60-62	0.7 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 SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS 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 SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at [studenttechsupport@criswell.edu](mailto:studenttechsupport@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](mailto:studentservices@criswell.edu). Pastoral and certified counseling services are also available to Criswell students. Appointments are scheduled through the Dean of Students, at [deanofstudents@criswell.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@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](mailto: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](mailto:writingcenter@criswell.edu) or calling 214.818.1373.

## Course Outline/Calendar

Date	Topic	Assignment
8/17	Introduction to the course A model of ethics and morality	
8/19	Some applied ethical issues	
8/24	Classical Virtue	Plato
8/26		Aristotle
8/31	Classical Hedonism and Stoicism	Epicurus
9/2		Epictetus
9/7	Christian Virtue	Aquinas
9/9	Social Contract 1	Hobbes
9/14	Altruism	Butler
9/16	Emotivism	Hume
9/21	Utilitarianism	Mill
9/23	Mid-Term Exam Review	Mid-Term Exam (online)
10/5-7	Deontology	Kant
10/12-14	Duty Moral Realism, Euthyphro Moral Nihilism, Divine Command	Kant Groundwork, chapter 1
10/19-21	Categorical Imperative Rights and Obligations	Kant Groundwork, chapter 2
10/26-28	Autonomy Conflicts of Interest	Kant Groundwork, chapter 3
11/2-4	Deontology 2 and Moral Dilemmas	Ross
11/9	Existentialism and Naturalism	Kierkegaard
11/11	Power	Nietzsche
11/16	Social Contract 2	Rawls
11/23	Fall Break: no class	
11/30	Student topics: current issues and dilemmas	
12/7	Final Exam	Final Exam DUE



## On-Campus Course Syllabus

### ADDENDUM FOR FA-21

PHI 301 L1

## Introduction to Ethics

In the event that Criswell College has to close the campus to on-campus classes in during the FA-20 semester, this addendum specifies how your instructor intends to adjust the course in order to allow students to meet the course objectives.

The course requirements, assignments, calendar, and attendance requirements from the syllabus for this course are replicated below.

### Course Requirements and Assignments

No change to this requirement.

### Remote Class Sessions: Identity and Participation Verification

In the case that synchronous class sessions are required in order to complete the course, students will verify their identity and participation by at least turning on video at the beginning and end of the class session, or if called upon.