

PHI 1600 – Studies in Applied Ethics
Spring 2015 Section 56
MW 11am – 1:50pm

INSTRUCTOR:

Name: Nicholas Manias, Ed. D.
Contact Information: 727.791.2730 – manias.nicholas@spcollege.edu (use MYCOURSES for all contact and assignments).
Office Hours: Please see instructor link below for office hours.
Please see my instructor page below for details of my office hours
Office Location: ES 213 J
Instructor Web Page: <http://www.spcollege.edu/instructors/id/105>

I am glad you are here!

Welcome to the wonderful world of ethics. I am excited for you that you have decided to enroll in this course. I believe this course will open your eyes to a wide range of topics. I am also excited that you have decided to enroll/stay enrolled in college. A college degree is something that someone can never take away from you, it is proof that you complete what you start and it opens many doors for you. Please let me know how I can help you!

**College Helpdesk # 727-341-4357 or 727-341-HELP - for ALL
computer problems with MYCOURSES**

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT:

Dean: Dr. Susan Demers
Office Location: Clearwater
Office Number: SS 165
Phone: 727-791-2501
Email: demers.susan@spcollege.edu

ECampus Web Page Link: www.appliedethicsinstitute.org

COURSE INFORMATION:

Course Description: A practical overview of key issues, questions, and concepts in applied ethics. Special emphases are placed on the historical development of ethical thinking and ethical theories, and on multicultural aspects of ethics. Students will also examine a variety of personal, social, and professional ethical issues and problems, and learn methods of resolving them through the use of critical thinking skills, sound ethical reasoning, and legal and professional codes. The seminar format provides students with an active learning experience, increased student interaction, and opportunities for independent study into ethical issues of personal interest. This course has a substantial writing requirement. This course meets the college's general education requirement for applied ethics. Credit is not given for both PHI 1600 and any of the following courses: PHI 1602, PHI 1603, PHI 1631, PHI 2621, PHI 2622, or PHI 2649.

Major Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will trace the historical development of ethical thinking, considering ideas from early Greek to contemporary philosophers.
2. The student will recognize and analyze a variety of ethical issues when confronted with examples of situations containing such issues.
3. The student will identify the multicultural aspects of ethics.
4. The student will apply critical thinking skills, ethical principles and logical reasoning processes to resolve ethical issues.

Course Objectives:

1. The student will understand the historical development of ethical thinking, considering ideas from early Greek to contemporary philosophies by: defining central ethical terms and describing major historical and contemporary theories of ethics.
2. The student will recognize and analyze a variety of ethical issues when confronted with examples of situations containing such issues by: distinguishing between moral and non-moral issues and statements, identifying a wide variety of personal, social and professional ethical issues and evaluating various points of view on a wide variety of personal, social and professional ethical issues.
3. The student will identify the multicultural aspects of ethics by: recognizing the relationship between the foundational values of a society and the quality and mode of life of that society, recognizing examples of ethical and unethical behavior within a society and describing the effort of unethical behavior on the individual and the society.
4. The student will identify and apply critical thinking skills, ethical principles and logical reasoning processes to resolve ethical issues by: describing methods of practical and ethical decision making, applying a wide variety of philosophical principles to resolve ethical dilemmas when presented with actual and hypothetical ethical issues found in personal, social and professional life, and describing and distinguishing characteristics emphases of a variety of professional codes of ethics (including the Florida Code of Ethics for Public Employees) and relating the codes to ethical issues in contemporary professional life.

Prerequisites (Course & Skill Set): *REA 0002 and ENC 0010 or satisfactory score on the SPC placement test.*

Gordon Rule Information: This is Gordon Rule Course and partially satisfies the SBE 6A – 10.30 writing requirements outlined in the General Education Requirements. A Student must complete the "Gordon Rule" writing assignments and earn a minimum grade of "C" in order to earn credit for this course. In addition, the "Gordon Rule" writing assignments will be graded for grammar, spelling and punctuation.

PHI 1600 is a Gordon Rule Class (the Gordon Rule originated with the Florida legislature). A Gordon Rule Class requires students to demonstrate college-level writing

skills through multiple assignments. St. Petersburg College has designated the CTAP as one indicator that the Gordon Rule has been fulfilled. (In our course I have decided to replace the CTAP with a proctored critical thinking midterm)

In order to pass PHI 1600 and fulfill the general education requirement for ethics at SPC, you must:

- (a) successfully complete the critical thinking midterm
- AND
- (b) achieve a final grade of “C” or better in PHI 1600.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK & OTHER RESOURCE INFORMATION:

Manias, N., Monroe, D., & Till, J. (2013). *Ethics Applied*. (7 ed.). Boston: Pearson Education
ISBN: 1256825352

We made a conscious effort to try to keep the price of the book down. We cut the number of pages from the previous edition, we discontinued the use of the binder and electronic version, and we do not participate in “buyback” (which requires publishers to charge exorbitant rates for books and allows bookstores to resell books in perpetuity while basically “renting” the books to students. The book is online for as low as \$50 and in the bookstores on SPC campuses for \$56. Compared to most textbooks, that is a great deal – and best of all – you get to keep this great book as a resource for years to come!

There will be copies of the textbook on reserve at each SPC campus library for those students who would like to use the book while on campus.

**** A note about the book – full disclosure**** I was one of the writers/editors of *Ethics Applied* 7.0. I was paid on a stipend basis by St. Petersburg College to write/edit my portion of the book. I do not receive any royalties from the sales of the book, nor will I in the future. In other words, I do not make any money from you buying the book, if I did, I would be retired and not be teaching this class 😊

IMPORTANT DATES:

Dates: <http://www.spcollege.edu/calendar/>
Financial Aid: <http://www.spcollege.edu/getfunds/>

ATTENDANCE:

If you miss more than four (4) live classes you will receive an “F” for the course. Please be aware that each time you are late will count as half (1/2) of an absence, regardless of how late you are. “Tardies” and “Lates” will count toward total absences. Therefore, you may be assigned an “F” in the class due to not arriving to class on time. **I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences**

Grading: There are a total of 2000 possible points available in the course.

My grading scale is as follows:

- A - 2000 - 1800 points (90-100 %)
- B – 1800 - 1600 points (80-91 %)
- C - 1600- 1400 points (70-81 %) Students must earn at least a "C" to pass.
- D - 1400 - 1200 points (60-70%)

Late Work: Late work will be accepted with a penalty. You will lose 10% of the assignments worth **per calendar day** it is late. It is considered received when it is the instructor's hand. In class assignments may not be made up. Work may be submitted via drop boxes in the MYCOURSES system in case a student misses the class meeting when an assignment was due.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Presentation of Assignments: It is expected that students submit their assignments through the drop boxes in MYCOURSES. By submitting work through MYCOURSES it allows students to submit work by 11:59pm on the date it is due to still be considered on time. It also saves lots and lots of paper (which saves money and trees).

How to submit assignments:

We will use drop boxes in this class. To submit the assignments properly in the appropriate **drop box**.

Assignments

1. **Academic Honesty Quiz – 100 Points** - It will be administered slightly differently than the rest of the quizzes. Students will not be able to continue in the class until they have passed this quiz with a perfect score. The quiz is located on our MYCOURSES homepage.

Students will be tested on the college's academic honesty policy. The policy may be found at: <http://www.spcollege.edu/academichonesty/> or in a pamphlet that may be found on campus.

It is the student's responsibility to learn the college's policy completely. Each student must pass the Academic Honesty Exam with a score of 100%. **Students who do not earn a perfect score on the Academic Honesty Exam must retake the exam until they earn a perfect score. Students only will have TEN (10) attempts and will be withdrawn from the course if they do not pass it with a perfect score and marked as "non-participatory."**

There are two reasons why you are tested on the academic honesty policies of the college. The first is that you will need to know and follow these throughout your collegiate career. The second is so that if you choose to violate any part of the college's academic honesty policy you will not be able to claim ignorance. This is an Ethics course, to put it plainly if you cheat I will do my best to get you thrown out college.

2. **Chapter Quizzes – 200 Points** - Students will be required to take quizzes that correspond with the chapters we will cover in class. The quizzes will be taken during the first ten minutes of class time. They will be unannounced and cannot be made up for any reason. It is the student's responsibility to bring a blank scantron (form 882) with them to every class along with a pencil. Students will only have the first ten minutes – if a student is late he/she will not be given extra time to make up or complete the quiz.

3. **Critical Thinking Midterm – 600 Points - (Required Assignment).**

The critical thinking midterm will be based on of the critical thinking model from chapter 4. The midterm will ask students to read various scenarios and apply the various steps of the critical thinking model. The midterm will be short answer and essay. The midterm has taken the place of the CTAP; we will not be doing the CTAP in our ethics course. More details and study material on the midterm can be found in the midterm folder on the lessons page.

4. **Writing on Code of Ethics – 50 Points** - Please find the code of ethics for your profession, career, or current job. Please read it closely. Answer the following questions: (1) Where did you find the code? (2) What is your impression of the code (7 – 9 sentences)? (3) What code level was this code written at (7 – 9 sentences)? (4) If you could recommend any changes to the code what would they be? (7 – 9 sentences)?

5. **Economic Justice/Human Rights Assignment - 50 Points** – Students will be required to watch a speech and a flash presentation online and complete an assignment based on these. More details on this assignment will be provided at a later time. This paper must be over 500 words.

6. **Group Presentations – 200 Points** - Students will be required to present arguments based on cases that will be used to cover government ethics. More details will follow on this assignment.

7. **Group Activities (6) - 20 Points each, 120 Points total** – During the semester students will be required to be part of in-class groups. These groups will take part in: logic exercises, discussions of moral theory, discussions of contemporary moral issues, discussions of business ethics, and contemporary moral issues. The group activities not be announced. Group activities are not subject to make-up and if a student misses a group activity he/she will receive a zero (0) for that assignment.

8. **Class Participation – 200 Points** - Up to two hundred points (200) of your semester total are based on your active participation in class. "Active participation" does not refer just to talking in class, but means that you are mentally involved in whatever we are doing. Offenses such as sleeping in class, frequent tardiness, excessive absences, and doing other homework while in class will lower this grade. To that end, it makes logical sense that if a student misses class he/she cannot participate and absences will strongly affect this grade. If a student misses more class allowed in the previous attendance policy and are somehow allowed to stay in the class, the student can expect to have serious deductions to the class participation grade.

9. **Critical Thinking Quizzes – 180 Points** (6 X 30 = 180 points possible)

Students will be required to complete 6 different quizzes demonstrating the application of certain steps of the critical thinking model. These quizzes will be used to help students learn the critical thinking model as well as prepare for the proctored midterm.

10. **Final Exam - 300 Points** - One final exam will be given in this course. It will be multiple-choice in nature and is based on assigned workbook review questions and class lecture.

The final exam is comprehensive. Make-up exams will be essay exams, and are probably somewhat more difficult and will only be offered in cases where the student produces documentation for his/her absence. Make-up exams for the final exam will be conducted during

the next semester. The student's grade will be calculated and submitted without the points for the final exam if the exam is missed.

11. **Student Questionnaires:** (0 Points, students will not receive grade until completed)

At the beginning and the end of the semester each student will have to go online and submit their answers to the Ethics Student Questionnaire. No credit will be given for these two assignments. Those students who do not turn in the first survey will be withdrawn from the class. Those students who do not turn in the second survey will not receive a grade for the course.

Extra Credit: All students regardless of grade average or attendance are eligible for extra credit. Extra credit will have the value of one letter grade (200 points), it is an "all or nothing" proposition. There will be no partial extra credit given.

Volunteer Deadlines: The deadlines must be kept; if you plan on doing extra credit make sure you make these deadlines.

June 3rd – **Notification Deadline** - Notification must be given to the instructor that you intend to do extra credit by this date, and all paperwork must also be filled out at that time. This includes the release of liability, and the student expectations contract. In addition, you must have set up your volunteer program with the organization by this date. Do not delay in contacting the organization(s) you plan to work with. Sometimes they take time to get back to you and it is not there fault if you wait until the last minute.

July 1st – **Project Completion Deadline** – All hours and paperwork must be completed by this date.

Volunteer for ten hours (all ten hours must be at one place) under the partnership between SPC and 211 Tampa Bay Cares in accordance with the specified guidelines provided to you by your instructor. Please see the Applied Ethics Institute website for details: www.appliedethicsinstitute.org - look for the button that says "community service"

Grades in MYCOURSES: I use MYCOURSES's gradebook as the official gradebook for the course. I will send out emails when I have graded the work and updated scores. Please check your grades regularly and email me with questions or concerns as early as you notice them.

Semester Schedule: We will try our best to stick to this schedule. At different points we may be ahead of the schedule or behind it, but we will try to stick to it. The following should only been seen as a guide. Official dates and assignment due dates will be announced in class.

Date :

5/18 – Discuss syllabus, ethical/legal, absolutism/relativism	5/20 – Introduction, moral development (Ch1, Ch2, and Ch3) Chapters 1 and 2 Quizzes (questions 1 – 10 and 11 – 25)
5/25 – No class – Memorial Day	5/27 – Moral development, logic, fallacies, critical thinking (Ch3 and Ch4) Chapter 3 and 4 Quizzes (questions 26-42 and 51 – 63)
6/1 – Library visit, critical thinking continued Chapter 5 Quiz (questions 64 – 73)	6/3 – Moral theories, Egoism and Virtue Ethics (Ch5 and Ch6) Chapter 6 Quiz (questions 74 – 92)
6/8 – Moral theories, Kant and Rawls (Ch6 and Ch7)	6//10 – Applying moral theories, review for midterm
6/15 – Midterm – Room ES 203	6/17 – Chapter 17 Chapters 17, 19, 20 Quizzes (questions 1 – 15 and 16 – 25 and 26 -35)
6/22 – Chapter 20 Chapters 16, 18, 21 Quizzes (questions 36 – 50 and 51 – 64 and 65 – 88)	6/24 – Chapter 21 Chapters 14, 12, 8 Quizzes (questions 1 – 15 and 16 – 30 and 31 – 44)
6/29 – Contemporary Moral Issues 1 and 2 Quiz Chapter 22 (questions 45 – 65)	7/1 – Chapter 9 Economic Justice, Contemporary Moral Issue 3 Chapters 9 and 13 Quiz (questions 66 – 79)
7/6 – Group Presentations	7/8 – Final Exam - Room ES 203

* Contemporary moral issues – each class section will have the opportunity to vote on which three contemporary moral issues they would like to cover. These choices include the following options

Ch. 8 – War and Terrorism

Ch. 11 – Abortion

Ch. 12 – Death and Dying

Ch. 14 – Punishment and Death Penalty

Ch. 15 – Environment and Animals

******The best offer you will get*******

Please read the following closely.

Students can “earn” their way out of taking the final exam. Students who: (1) come to class every day, (2) with no more than 4 “tardies” for the semester and (3) submit every assignment will not have to take the final exam.

If you earn your way out of the final exam you will be assigned a score of 100% on the final exam and do not have to take the exam.

If for any reason (even a “good” reason) you are not able to live up to the criteria listed above you will have to take the final exam. Unfortunately, I am not able to allow for any exceptions for any reason.

STUDENTS’ EXPECTATIONS

1. Texting in class
2. Using laptops (unless I specifically approve it ahead of time)
3. Keeping cell phones out on the desk, on you lap, in your hands.

None of these will be allowed. If you cannot follow these rules you should contact the Associate Provost, Mr. Matt Bowen. If you violate these, I will ask you to leave the class and refer you to Mr. Bowen.

Academic Honesty/Cheating/Plagiarism: *To put it plainly, this is an ethics course and cheating of any kind cannot be tolerated. Cheating, whether on exams or papers, is an attempt to get a grade without learning. It violates the rights of your fellow students who do not cheat. Cheating defeats your purpose for being in school and hurts you in the long run. If a student is caught cheating or plagiarizing he/she will receive an “F” in the class and be reported to the administration upon the **FIRST INFRACTION***

STUDENT SURVEY OF INSTRUCTION:

The student survey of instruction is administered in courses each semester. It is designed to improve the quality of instruction at St. Petersburg College. All student responses are confidential and anonymous and will be used solely for the purpose of performance improvement.

SIGNATURE PAGE:

I have read, understand, and agree to abide fully by the parameters set in this syllabus and Syllabus Addendum.

Student Signature:

Date: