

# COURSE SYLLABUS

## HUM 225: Ethics

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### Course Description

An exploration of basic theories of right and wrong, including the concepts of divine law, intuition utilitarianism, egoism, existentialism and situation ethics.

*Please Note:* This course includes the viewing of films that contain violent and sexual content. If anyone feels uncomfortable viewing this material please contact me to make arrangements to complete alternative assignments.

### General Course Information

Number of Units/Weeks	40/10
#Hours Lecture/#Hours Laboratory/#Hours Homework	40/0/80
Prerequisite(s)	ENG 110
Co-requisites (s)	None
Course Developer(s)	Danielle Peloquin, M.S
Date Approved / Last Review	November 2002 / August 2014

### Learning Outcomes

- Recognize ethics and ethical arguments.
- Apply ethical arguments to current ethical debates.
- Prepare debates on current ethical issues.
- Relate lessons from literature and film to ethical teachings.
- Critique literature and film using ethical arguments.

### Instructional Methods Employed in this Course

- Lecture and reading assignments
- Hands-on exercises
- Research
- Student presentations
- Practical application of theory and skills in authentic projects
- Build on prior knowledge and experience of students to enhance richness of class activities

### Information Resources for this Course



#### Textbook

Rosenstand, N. (2013). *The Moral of the Story: An Introduction to Ethics*. New York: McGraw-Hill.



#### Other Materials

- Carver, R. (1991). *Where I'm Coming From: Selected Stories* (pp. 123-124). New York, NY: Vintage.
- Carver, R. (1991). *Where I'm Coming From: Selected Stories* (pp. 173-194). New York, NY: Vintage
- Chiang, T. (2010). *Stories of Your Life and Others* (pp. 237-276). New York, NY: Small Beer Press
- Jackson, S. (2009). *The Lottery and Other Stories* (pp. 291-302). New York, NY: Penguin.
- Keret, E. (2008). *The Girl on the Fridge: Stories* (pp. 75-81). New York, NY: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux.
- Paterniti, M. (2011). The Suicide Catcher. In D. Eggers (Ed.), *The Best American Nonrequired Reading* (pp. 337-357). New York, NY: Houghton Mifflin.
- Printup, C. (2004). The Promise of Something. In E. Eggers (Ed.), *The Best American Nonrequired Reading* (pp. 341-349). New York, NY: Houghton Mifflin.
- Satre, J. (1975). *The Wall* (pp. 18-40). New York, NY: Penguin.
- Vonnegut, K. (2010). *Welcome to the Monkey House: Stories* (pp. 132-146). New York, NY: Random House.

## **Table/Topics & Assignments**

### **Types of Assignments:**

#### **Lecture -**

Considered Lecture Hours

#### **Classroom Discussion -**

Considered Lecture Hours

#### **In Class Critique -**

Considered Lecture Hours

#### **Delivering Oral Presentations -**

Considered Lecture Hours

#### **In Class (IC) Exercise -**

Considered Lecture Hours

#### **Reading -**

Considered Homework, work done outside of class

#### **WebClass lesson (non-online courses) -**

Considered Homework, work done outside of class

**Lab Work -**

Considered Lab Hours

**Quiz, Midterm or Final -**

Considered Lecture Hours

Week 1						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 1A	Introduction to Course Materials	1	--	--	--	
LEC 1B	Library Instruction/Workshop	1	--	--	--	
IC EX 1A	Read <i>Blood Diamond</i>	2	--	--	--	
HW 1A	Read Chapter 1&2 (101 pages) Evaluated by IC EX 3A: Ethics Debate #1	--	--	10	--	Week 2
HW 1B	Ethical Me Essay	--	--	1	50	Week 2
Total Week 1		4	0	11	50	
Week 2						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 2A	What are Values?	1	--	--	--	
LEC 2B	Moral Lessons Through Literature	2	--	--	--	
LEC 2C	Multicultural Ethics	1	--	--	--	
HW 2A	Read Chapter 3 (40 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 3A: Ethics Debate #1.	--	--	4	--	Week 3
HW 2B	Read "The Lottery" (12 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 3A: Ethics Debate #1	--	--	1	--	Week 3
HW 2C	World of Ethics Midterm	--	--	2	150	Week 5
Total Week 2		4	0	7	150	
Week 3						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
IC EX 3A	Ethics Debate #1 based on reading	.5	--	--	50	
LEC 3A	Ethical Relativism	2	--	--	--	

IC EX 3B	Read <i>Frozen River</i>	1.5	--	--	--	
HW 3A	Read Chapter 4 (49 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 4A: Ethics Debate #2	--	--	5	--	Week 4
HW 3B	Read "The Room" (24 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 4A: Ethics Debate #2	--	--	2	--	Week 4
HW 3C	Read "So Much Water So Close to Home" (20 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 4A: Ethics Debate #2	--	--	2	--	Week 4
Total Week 3		4	0	9	50	
<b>Week 4</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
IC EX 4A	Ethics Debate #2 based on reading	.5	--	--	50	
LEC 4A	The Ego	3.5	--	--	--	
HW 4A	Read Chapters 5&6 (83 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 7A: Ethics Debate #3	--	--	8	--	Week 5
HW 4B	Read "Use of Force" (1 page) Evaluated by IC EX 7A: Ethics Debate #3	--	--	--	--	Week 5
Total Week 4		4	0	8	50	
<b>Week 5</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 5A	Using Reason	2	--	--	--	
IC EX 5A	<i>Wall Street</i>	2	--	--	--	
HW 5A	Read Chapter 7 (58 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 7A: Ethics Debate #3	--	--	6	--	Week 6
HW 5B	Read "Welcome to the Monkey House"(19 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 7A: Ethics Debate #3	--	--	2	--	Week 6
HW 5C	Annotated Bibliography for Final	--	--	2	100	Week 6
Total Week 5		4	0	10	100	

Week 6						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 6A	Personhood, Rights, Justice	2	--	--	--	
IC EX 6A	<i>Apocalypse Now</i>	2	--	--	--	
HW 6A	Read Chapter 8 & 9 (84 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 7A: Ethics Debate #3	--	--	8	--	Week 7
HW 6B	"Little Things" (5 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 7A: Ethics Debate #3	--	--	.5	--	Week 7
HW 6C	"Waterworks" (6 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 7A: Ethics Debate #3	--	--	.5	--	Week 7
HW 6D	Ethics in Culture Final Paper	--	--	2	200	Week 9 <i>Rough Draft Due Week 8</i>
Total Week 6		4	0	9	200	
Week 7						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
IC EX 7A	Ethics Debate #3 based on reading	.5	--	--	50	
LEC 7A	Virtues...Vice?.	3.5	--	--	--	
HW 7A	Read Chapter 10 (60 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 10A: Student Presentations of Case Studies	--	--	6	--	Week 8
HW 7B	"Not Human Beings" (8 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 10A: Student Presentations of Case Studies	--	--	1	--	Week 8
Total Week 7		4	0	7	50	
Week 8						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 8A	Contemporary Ethics	1	--	--	--	
IC EX 8A	<i>Thank You For Smoking</i>	2	--	--	--	

IC EX 8B	Peer Review of Rough Draft	1	--	--	50	
HW 8A	Read Chapter 11 (63 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 10A: Student Presentations of Case Studies	--	--	6	0	Week 9
HW 8B	"Liking What You See" (37 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 10A: Student Presentations of Case Studies	--	--	4	--	Week 9
Total Week 8		4	0	10	50	
<b>Week 9</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 9A	Applying Ethics	4	--	--	--	
HW 9A	Read Chapter 13 (64 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 10A: Student Presentations of Case Studies	--	--	6	--	Week 10
HW 9B	Read "Promise of Something"(9 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 10A: Student Presentations of Case Studies	--	--	1	--	Week 10
HW 9C	Read "Suicide Catcher" (11 pages). Evaluated by IC EX 10A: Student Presentations of Case Studies	--	--	1	--	Week 10
HW 9D	Ethical Me Reflection	--	--	1	100	Week 10
Total Week 9		4	0	9	100	
<b>Week 10</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 10A	Case Studies in Ethics	1	--	--	--	
IC EX 10A	Student Presentations of Case Studies	3	--	--	100	
Total Week 10		4	0	0	100	

## Course Hours Summary

Week	Topic	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours
1	Introduction to Course Materials/Library Workshop	4	0	11
2	What are Values/Moral Lessons Through Literature/Multicultural Ethics	4	0	7
3	Ethical Relativism	4	0	9
4	The Ego	4	0	9
5	Using Reason	4	0	10
6	Personhood, Rights, Justice	4	0	9
7	Virtues...Vice?	4	0	7
8	Contemporary Ethics	4	0	10
9	Applying Ethics	4	0	9
10	Case Studies in Ethics	4	0	0
Total		40	0	81

## Table/Point Breakdown

Week	Assignment	Possible Points	Percent of Grade
1	Ethical Me Essay	50	5%
3	Ethics Debate #1 based on reading	50	5%
4	Ethics Debate #2 based on reading	50	5%
5	World of Ethics Midterm	150	15%
5	Annotated Bibliography for Final	100	10%
7	Ethics Debate #3 based on reading	50	5%
8	Peer Review of Rough Draft	50	5%
9	Ethics in Culture Final	200	20%
10	Student Presentations of Case Studies	100	10%
10	Ethical Me Reflection	100	10%
	Participation	100	10%
Total		1000	100%

## Your Grades for this Course

Your final grade for this course will be based on an assessment by the Instructor of your performance on a number of course activities, which may include objective tests, classroom exercises, laboratory demonstrations, project papers, or other types of activities. The chart below indicates in what activities you will engage, how many possible points can be earned for each activity, and the percentage of your final grade that will be accounted for by each activity.

Students in this course should be graded following Coleman University assessment practices and policies. A point system is used in the University to indicate student performance on various required activities or projects. For this course, it is recommended that points be distributed as follows:

**Coleman University Grade Assignment Policy:**

Percent	Letter Grade	Grade Points
94-100	A	4
90-93	A-	3.67
87-89	B+	3.33
84-86	B	3
80-83	B-	2.67
77-79	C+	2.33
74-76	C	2
70-73	C-	1.67
67-69	D+	1.33
64-66	D	1
60-63	D-	0.67
N/A	INC	0
N/A	W	0
60 or above	CR	0
59 or below	NC	0
N/A	I	0
N/A	W	0
N/A	AU	0
N/A	TR	0
N/A	WV	0

Legend	
CR = Credit	NC = No Credit
I = Incomplete	W = Course Withdrawal
AU = Audit	TR = Transfer Credit
WV = Waiver	

**Academic Accommodation / Adjustment Policy:**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Coleman University offers accommodations to students with



documented physical, psychological, and/or cognitive disabilities. Coleman University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to offer equal educational opportunities to qualified disabled individuals.

To qualify for an academic accommodation under ADA, the student must provide adequate documentation of a disability. Students seeking academic accommodations should contact the campus ADA Coordinator at 858-966-3953 or via email at [ada@coleman.edu](mailto:ada@coleman.edu). The ADA Coordinator will review the documentation provided and verify ADA coverage. Students covered under ADA must meet with the ADA Coordinator at the beginning of every term to determine the appropriate academic accommodations. Failing to meet with the ADA Coordinator at the beginning of every term may impact the availability of accommodations.

After the academic accommodations have been determined, the students' instructors will be notified by the ADA Coordinator. If any problems or concerns regarding the provision of accommodations occur, the student must inform the ADA Coordinator. If the student feels accommodation is not being made appropriately, the student may follow the published Student Grievance Procedures.