# Course Description

The basic principles of Christian moral decision-making and their application to current issues are examined. Some contemporary moral issues discussed include sexual behavior, racism, sexism, just war theories, and capital punishment, among others.

**University Learning Outcomes (ULO)**

* **ULO1**:Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World
* **ULO2**: Intellectual and Practical Skills
* **ULO3**: Personal and Social Responsibility
* **ULO4**: Integrative and Applied Learning
* **ULO5**: Immersed in the Critical Concerns of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

# Course Outcomes (CO)

* **CO1**: Describe significant ethical theories and their relationship to Christian ethics. (LO1)
* **CO2**: Demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles of the Christian moral life. (LO1, 3)
* **CO3**: Analyze principles of Catholic social teaching to contemporary issues. (LO1, 3, 4)

# Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)

* **PLO1**: Express an appreciation and understanding of a variety of aesthetic, literary, cultural and ideological traditions.(ULO 2, 3)
* **PLO2**: Engage meaningfully in a community of scholarship through inquiry, research and the communication of ideas. (ULO 2, 4)
* **PLO3**: Evaluate historical, political, economic and scientific data while recognizing the interrelatedness of events and processes. (ULO 1, 2, 3, 4)
* **PLO4:** Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of technology on society. (ULO7)
* **PLO5**: Reflect upon the relationship of the Divine to the human experience. (ULO 2, 3, 4)
* **PLO6**: Examine and understand the dynamics of individual and group behavior. (ULO 2, 4)
* **PLO7**: Demonstrate an understanding of quantitative reasoning. (ULO 1, 2, 4)
* **PLO8**: Engage in constructive activities of service to the community in light of the Gospel tradition as experienced through the Mercy charism that shapes the College. (ULO 2, 3, 4)

**Student Expectations**

Students are expected to:

* Ask probing and insightful questions related to course content.
* Make meaningful and relevant connections and application to their own learning processes.
* Be productive and contributing members of class discussions.

# Required Course Materials

Wilkens, Steve. *Beyond Bumper-Sticker Ethics: An Introduction to Theories of Right and Wrong*. Winona, MN: Anselm Academic.

Zalot, J.D. and Guevin, B. (2011). *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*. Winona, MN: Anselm Academic.

*Note:* Any standard translation of the Holy Bible is recommended to complete the assignments.

# Suggested Point Values

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Assessment** | **Point Value** | **Due** |
| **Week 1** | |  |  |
|  | Participation: Learning Activities | 100 | <insert due date> |
|  | Moral Virtues | 20 | <insert due date> |
|  | Week 1 Reflection Blog | 50 |  |
|  | Short Response Case Study | 100 |  |
|  | Week 1 Quiz | 10 |  |
| **Week 2** | |  |  |
|  | Participation: Learning Activities | 100 | <insert due date> |
|  | Ethical Case Study | 100 |  |
|  | Egoism vs. Behaviorism Case Study | 100 |  |
|  | Week 2 Quiz | 10 |  |
| **Week 3** | |  |  |
|  | Participation: Learning Activities | 60 | <insert due date> |
|  | Foreign Debt | 100 |  |
|  | Death Penalty | 50 |  |
|  | Week 3 Ethical Case Study | 100 |  |
|  | Week 3 Quiz | 10 |  |
| **Week 4** | |  |  |
|  | Participation: Learning Activities | 60 | <insert due date> |
|  | Reflect on Stem Cell Research | 100 |  |
|  | Justifiable or Not? | 100 |  |
|  | Just War Presentation | 100 |  |
|  | Week 4 Quiz | 10 |  |
| **Week 5** | |  |  |
|  | Participation: Learning Activities | 80 | <insert due date> |
|  | Medical Ethics | 100 |  |
|  | Human Sexuality | 100 |  |
|  | Week 5 Ethical Case Study Journal | 100 |  |
|  | Week 5 Quiz | 10 |  |
| **Total Points** | | **1670** |  |

# Course Schedule

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Start** | **End** |
| One | <insert start date> | <insert end date> |
| Two |  |  |
| Three |  |  |
| Four |  |  |
| Five |  |  |

# Weekly Learning Modules

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week One: Foundations of Moral Theology | |  | |
| ***Learning Objectives*** | | ***Alignment*** | |
| * 1. Define moral theology. | | CO2 | |
| * 1. Explain virtue and its role in the moral life. | | CO2 | |
| * 1. Examine conscience and its role in the moral life. | | CO2 | |
| * 1. Explain cultural relativism as an ethical theory. | | CO1 | |
| ***Required Learning Resources and Activities****: Students must complete any resources activities listed in this section as selected by the instructor.* | | ***Alignment*** | ***Pages/AIE/***  ***Generic*** |
| **Read** Ch. 1 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*. | | 1.1 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 2 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*. | | 1.2, 1.3 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 1 of *Beyond Bumper-Sticker Ethics*. | | 1.4 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 2 of *Beyond Bumper-Sticker Ethics*. | | 1.4 |  |
| **What is Moral Theology?**  **Watch** the video What is Moral Theology? | | 1.1 |  |
| **Nature of Morality Blog**    **Read** theessay “The Nature of Morality and Moral Theories” at <http://home.sandiego.edu/~baber/gender/MoralTheories.html>  **Answe**r the following in a discussion blog of 150 to 200 words:   * After reading the essay, what is your understanding of ethics versus morality? Do you think ethics would differ dependent on the culture? Do you think morals would change based upon the cultural background? Provide examples.   **Respond** to the answers of at least two students by explaining how you agree or disagree with their stance(s).  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 | Blog = 1hr |
| **Christian Morality Discussion**  **Review** Ch. 1 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answerONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * What is the difference between morality and ethics? What four important points does the author make in regard to morality? * What is the difference between moral philosophy and moral theology? What role does divine revelation play in moral theology? What role does reason play? * What is natural law? What role does it play in ethics? * What is virtue? What role do virtues play in ethics?   **Respond** to least two students by sharing an experience dealing with their explanations.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 1.1 or 1.2 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Moral Act and Conscience**  **Review** Ch. 2 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answerONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * Based on the readings, how do we evaluate a moral act? What three criteria do we use? What do we mean by each of the criteria? What does Jesus’ commandment about not judging others mean in light of these criteria? * What is conscience? What does it mean for conscience to be an activity as opposed to a “thing”? What role does synderesis play in relation to conscience? What role does the Magisterium of the Church play in relation to conscience?   **Respond** to two students by providing examples in relation to their findings.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 1.2 or 1.3 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Ethical Systems**  **Review** Ch. 1 of *Beyond Bumper-Sticker Ethics*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answerONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * According to the author, what is the relation between “theory and life” in ethics? * According to the author, what is a worldview? Why is it so important?   **Respond** to at least two students explaining how you do or do not relate to their findings.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 1.4 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Cultural Relativism**  **Review** Ch. 2 of *Beyond Bumper-Sticker Ethics*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answerONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * According to the author, what is cultural relativism? Give an example of cultural relativism. * According to the author, what is one of the positive aspects of cultural relativism? What is one of the potential problems of cultural relativism?   **Respond** to at least two students explaining how you do or do not relate to their findings.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 1.4 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| ***Assignments****: Students must complete the weekly assignment(s).* | | ***Alignment*** | ***Points/AIE/***  ***Generic*** |
| **Moral Virtues**  **Complete** andsubmit “The Moral Virtues” worksheet. | | 1.2 | Problem Solving = 1hr |
| **Week 1 Reflection Blog**  **Answer** the following in 200 to 250 words:     * To whom do you look for guidance when faced with a moral problem? What makes this person an appropriate person to consult when facing a moral problem? What kind of advice does this person give (practical, spiritual, etc.)? How does this person’s guidance compare and contrast with the Catholic moral perspective given in the book?   **Review** the responses of at least three other students and explain what you found interesting in their responses.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 1.2, 1.4 | Blog = 1hr |
| **Short Response Case Study**  **Choose** ONE of the following brief scenarios to which to respond:   * The manufacturing company that you have worked for in the past 16 years hit a major bump and laid off many workers. You are part of that layoff and have been out of a steady job for a year. You do not have a college degree and have a difficult time finding a job that pays equal to what you used to make in the previous company. To make ends meet, you accepted part-time jobs at a fast food restaurant and a general store. Both places only offered part-time work, so it is necessary to work both. At the fast food restaurant, there are times when the frozen food is not supervised, creating an opportunity for you to steal some of the products to feed your family.   The food chain makes millions of dollars, so what little bit they lose should not hurt them. In this situation, is it morally permissible to steal the food to feed your family? Based on your response to the question, what does that tell you about the source of your moral principles?   * You and your best friend are in your 50s, so now being healthy and eating healthy is a top priority in your life. You want to be with your family for as long as you can, and you want to watch your grandkids grow. Your best friend, on the other hand, does not care about his/her weight. This person thinks he/she should be allowed to eat whatever he/she wants. The friend has family that care about him/her, and they have expressed similar concerns about this person’s eating habits and significant weight gain. Your friend tells you he/she gets upset when they pester him/her about his/her health. Sometimes, the friend goes for days not talking to family if they bring up the topic of health.   You care for your friend and want to express your concerns for his/her health but you also do not want to lose the friendship. Should you talk to your friend about his/her weight? Based on your response to the question, what does that tell you about the source of your moral principles?  **Answer** the questions that follow your chosen scenario in 350 to 700 words.  **Use** citations from the readings for support.  **Format** your paper according to APA guidelines. You may use first-person voice in your response.  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 1.1, 1.3, 1.4 | Case Study = 1hr |
| **Week 1 Quiz**  **Complete** Week 1 Quiz. | | 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 | Quiz = 1hr |
| **Total** |  |  | **9 hours** |
| **Notes** |  | | |

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| Week Two: Catholic Social Teaching and Business Ethics | |  |  |
| ***Learning Objectives*** | | ***Alignment*** | |
| * 1. Define the basic principles of Catholic social teaching. | | CO2 | |
| * 1. Relate the role of Catholic social teaching to specific ethical questions in business. | | CO3 | |
| * 1. Explain ethical egoism and behaviorism as ethical theories | | CO1 | |
| ***Required Learning Resources and Activities****: Students must complete any resources activities listed in this section as selected by the instructor.* | | ***Alignment*** | ***Pages/AIE/***  ***Generic*** |
| **Read** Ch. 3 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*. | | 2.1 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 4 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*. | | 2.2 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 3 of *Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics*. | | 2.3 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 4 of *Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics*. | | 2.3 |  |
| **Jeopardy Game**  **Complete** the Jeopardy game regarding Catholic social teaching.  **Email** your instructor if you have any questions about the concepts in the game. | | 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 | Lecture Activity = 1hr |
| **News Article Blog**  **Research** a current business article from an online news outlet such as CNN, NPR, New York Times, etc.  **Share** your article link in the blog with a summary of the article in 150 to 200 words.  **Relate** the story back to one of the principles of Catholic social teaching.  **Respond** to the findings of two students sharing how your findings do or do not relate.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 2.2 | Blog = 1hr |
| **Catholic Social Teaching Discussion**  **Review** Ch. 3 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answer ONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * What is Catholic social teaching? Describe one of the principles of Catholic social teaching. * How would you describe scriptural foundations of Catholic social teaching based on the Bible? Illustrate your answer with a specific text from Scripture. * How would you describe Catholic social teaching as understood by the early church fathers? Illustrate your answer with a specific example from one of the church fathers.   **Respond** to two students explaining how you do or do not relate to their findings.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 2.1 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Business Ethics and the American Corporation**  **Review** Ch. 4 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answerONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * What is the meaning of the Catholic social teaching principle of Human Dignity? How does this relate to a business ethics issue discussed in the reading? * What is the meaning of the Catholic social teaching principle of the Common Good? How does this relate to a business ethics issue discussed in the reading? * What is the meaning of the Catholic social teaching principle of Stewardship? How does this relate to a business ethics issue discussed in the reading? * What is the meaning of the Catholic social teaching principle of the Option for the Poor? How does this relate to a business ethics issue discussed in the reading? * What is the meaning of the Catholic social teaching principle of Solidarity? How does this relate to a business ethics issue discussed in the reading?     **Respond** to two students explaining how you do or do not relate to their findings.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 2.1, 2.2 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Comparison of Theories**  **Review** Ch. 3 and 4 of *Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics*. Then view the following videos:   * Ethical Egoism: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WH_9a0pJSHk> * Behaviorism: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQZ0c3lOE_4>   **Answer** the following in a discussion in 150 to 200 words:     * What are the main points of egoism and behaviorism? How do these theories differ and how are they similar? Can either one relate back to Catholic social teaching? If so, how? If not, why not? Provide examples.   **Respond** to the answers of two students explaining whether you agree or disagree with their explanation(s).  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 2.1, 2.3 | Lecture Activity = 1hr |
| ***Assignment****: Students must complete the weekly assignment(s).* | | ***Alignment*** | ***Points/AIE/***  ***Generic*** |
| **Ethical Case Study**  **Respond** to the following scenario:   * Your newspaper has published a report on a national study, which concluded that bottled water has virtually no health advantages over the tap water in most cities, including yours. The article included comments from local health storeowners and water distributors challenging the study. The AquaPure Bottled Water Company, whose advertising account is worth over $75,000 a year, has threatened to pull its account with your newspaper unless you run another story of equal prominence, focusing on the benefits of bottled water.   What do you do? How do you relate this back to your Catholic social teaching? What are some inner conflicts you might encounter?  **Write** a brief response in 350 to 400 words that answers the questions in the scenario.  **Use** citations from the readings in your response.  **Submit** your short response.  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 2.1, 2.2 | Case Study = 1hr |
| **Egoism vs. Behaviorism Case Study**  **Respond** to the following scenario:     * You are the buyer for a retail clothing store. Your store has a policy of not accepting gifts. However, over the years, salesmen have offered, and other employees have accepted, lunches, as well as theater and baseball tickets. One day, you arrive home from the office to find a new TV and DVD player on your doorstep with a note that says: “A personal gift for our long-standing friendship. Enjoy it with your family in good health, The Jones Clothing Company.”   How would you respond to this scenario if you are an ethical egoist? How do you justify your choices?  How might you respond differently or similarly if you are a behaviorist? How would you justify your choices?  **Write** a brief response in 200 to 250 words that answers the questions in the scenario.  **Use** citations from the readings in your response.  **Format** your response according to APA guidelines.  **Submit** your short response.  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 2.3 | Case Study = 1hr |
| **Week 2 Quiz**  **Complete** Week 2 Quiz. | | 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 | Quiz = 1hr |
| **Total** |  |  | **8 hours** |
| **Notes** |  | | |

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| Week Three: Global Economic Justice and The Death Penalty | |  |  |
| ***Learning Objectives*** | | ***Alignment*** | |
| * 1. Recognize the ethical considerations involved in foreign debt. | | CO3 | |
| * 1. Examine the ethical issues involved in the death penalty.   2. Explain utilitarianism as an ethical theory. | | CO3  CO1 | |
| ***Required Learning Resources and Activities****: Students must complete any resources activities listed in this section as selected by the instructor.* | | ***Alignment*** | ***Pages/AIE/***  ***Generic*** |
| **Read** Ch. 5 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*. | | 3.1 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 6 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*. | | 3.2 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 6 of *Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics*. | | 3.3 |  |
| **Mill’s Utilitarianism**  **View** video on Mill’s Utilitarianism: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzCOo5ftJO8>  **Respond** to the following in 150 to 200 words:   * After viewing the video, summarize the essential aspects of utilitarianism. How does this compare with Catholic moral teaching? Specifically, how does this relate to the Catholic understanding of the dignity of the human person?   **Respond** to the answers of two students by explaining how you agree or disagree with their stance(s).  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 2.1, 3.3 | Lecture Activity = 1hr |
| **Global Economic Ethics**  **Review** Ch. 5 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answer ONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * What is the moral problem posed by the foreign debt in Africa? How might we respond to this problem from the standpoint of one of the specific principles of Catholic social teaching? * What is the moral problem posed by structural adjustment in Africa? How might we respond to this problem from the standpoint of one of the specific principles of Catholic social teaching?   **Respond** to two students explaining how you may or may not relate to their findings. | | 2.1, 3.1 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Death Penalty**  **Review** Ch. 6 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answer ONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * Summarize the arguments *supporting* the death penalty. How do these compare with one of the principles of Catholic social teaching? * Summarize the arguments *against* the death penalty. How do these compare with one of the principles of Catholic social teaching?   **Respond** to two students explaining how you may or may not relate to their findings.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 2.1, 3.1 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Utilitarianism**  **Review** Ch. 6 of *Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answer ONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * According to the author, what is the difference between “quantitative utilitarianism” and “qualitative utilitarianism”? * According to the author, what is one of the positive aspects of utilitarianism? What is one of the problems with utilitarianism?   **Respond** to two students explaining how you do or do not relate to their findings.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 3.3 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Total** |  |  |  |
| ***Assignments****: Students must complete the weekly assignment(s).* | | ***Alignment*** | ***Points/AIE/***  ***Generic*** |
| **Foreign Debt**  **Write** an essay response of 700 to 1,050 words that includes the following:     * Why is the foreign debt of developing countries in Africa a problem? * Should the debt of these countries should be forgiven? * Discuss your answer in light of Catholic teaching. Explain whether you agree or disagree with Catholic teaching on this issue.   **Use** citations from the readings in your response.  **Format** your paper according to APA guidelines.  **Submit** your short response.  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 2.1, 2.2, 3.1 | Paper = 1hr |
| **Death Penalty**  **Complete** the Death Penalty worksheet.  **Submit** your completed worksheet.  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 2.1, 3.2 | Problem Solving = 1hr |
| **Week 3 Ethical Case Study**  **Read** Ethical Dilemma #5 at <http://fordlandethics.blogspot.com/2012/02/ethical-dilemma-5-february-2-2012.html>  **Respond** to the following in a 250- to 350-word response paper:   * How might a utilitarian ethicist respond to the dilemma? What are the factors you would consider in making this decision? * How would you respond to the dilemma? Provide rationale.   **Use** citations from the readings in your response.  **Format** your paper according to APA guidelines.  **Submit** your response.  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 3.3 | Case Study = 1hr |
| **Week 3 Quiz**  **Complete** Week 3 Quiz. | | 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 | Quiz = 1hr |
| **Total** |  |  | **8 hours** |
| **Notes** |  | | |

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| Week Four: Just War and Medical Ethics | |  |  |
| ***Learning Objectives*** | | ***Alignment*** | |
| * 1. Explain the ethical considerations involved in war and armed conflict. | | CO3 | |
| * 1. Discuss the ethical conflicts involved in health care. | | CO3 | |
| * 1. Explain Kantian ethics and Virtue ethics as ethical theories. | | CO1 | |
| ***Required Learning Resources and Activities****: Students must complete any resources activities listed in this section as selected by the instructor.* | | ***Alignment*** | ***Pages/AIE/***  ***Generic*** |
| **Read** Ch. 7 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*. | | 4.1 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 8 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*. | | 4.2 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 7 of *Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics*. | | 4.3 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 8 of *Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics*. | | 4.3 |  |
| **Week 4 Ethical Case Study Blog**  **Read** the following scenario:  A mother brings her son into the emergency room during an asthma attack. Though both of his parents work, they cannot afford medical insurance for themselves or him. They also earn too much money to qualify for state or federal aid. He is treated for his asthma attack at the hospital, and he and his mother leave. Two weeks later, they return to the hospital in a virtually identical scenario.  (Case study taken from <http://www.scu.edu/ethics/publications/submitted/cirone/medical-ethics.html>)  **Answer** the following questions in a blog post of 250 to 300 words:   * Should everyone be entitled to a basic "minimum of health care" or to the exact same health care? Does the cost of mandating “minimum care,” in which the doctor has to provide health care, affect the ethics? Would this change your decision of right or wrong? Why or why not?   **Respond** to two students on whether you agree or disagree with their stance(s).  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 4.2 | Blog = 1hr |
| **Journal on War**  **View** the following video on war:  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LcBovmGZSPU>  In 200 to 250 words respond to the following within the journal:   * List the main points discussed in the video. * If we assume the war is a “just war,” does that mean one side can do whatever necessary to win the war? How does this compare with Catholic teaching on “just wars”?   *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 4.1, 2.1 | Lecture Activity = 1hr |
| **Journal on Ethics**  **Refer** to Ch. 7 and 8 of *Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics*.  **Post** main points about Kantian and Virtue ethics. Then, answer the following in 150 to 200 words:   * How does this compare to Catholic teachings? Are there any similarities? What would be an ethical approach to war from a Kantian ethics perspective? How would this perspective differ from that of Virtue ethics? | | 4.1, 4.3 | Journal = 1hr |
| **Nicomachean Ethics**  **View** the lecture “Intro to Philosophy: Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, book 1” at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdtsS-J7Mc8>.  **Respond** to the following in a 200- to 250-word blog post:   * Summarize what Aristotle means by “happiness”. Do you agree or disagree with his understanding? What role does virtue play in happiness? What are the potential conflicts in our current society with this definition of “happiness”? If you do not see any conflicts, provide examples of how this can work in our society.   **Reply** to the postings of two students by agreeing or disagreeing with their stance(s).  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 1.2, 4.3 | Lecture Activity = 1hr |
| ***Assignment****: Students must complete the weekly assignment(s).* | | ***Alignment*** | ***Points/AIE/***  ***Generic*** |
| **Reflect on Stem Cell Research**  **Post** a short response in 150 to 200 words, reflecting on stem cell research, in the discussion board. Your response should answer the following:   * Do you support or oppose embryonic stem cell research? What ethical questions do you feel are the most important in regard to this question? Why?   **Respond** to at least three students explaining whether you agree or disagree with their stance(s).  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 4.2 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Justifiable or Not?**  A woman enters the emergency room with stomach pain. She undergoes a CT scan and is diagnosed with an abdominal aortic aneurysm, a weakening in the wall of the aorta which causes it to stretch and bulge (this is very similar to what led to John Ritter's death). The physicians inform her that the only way to fix the problem is surgically, and that the chances of survival are about 50/50. They also inform her that time is of the essence, and that should the aneurysm burst, she would be dead in a few short minutes. The woman is an erotic dancer; she worries that the surgery will leave a scar that will negatively affect her work; therefore, she refuses any surgical treatment. Even after much pressuring from the physicians, she adamantly refuses surgery. Feeling that the woman is not in her correct state of mind and knowing that time is of the essence, the surgeons decide to perform the procedure without consent. They anesthetize her and surgically repair the aneurysm. She survives, and sues the hospital for millions of dollars.  (Case study taken from <http://www.scu.edu/ethics/publications/submitted/cirone/medical-ethics.html>)  **Answer** the following in a blog post of 250 to 300 words:   * Do you believe that the physician's actions can be justified in any way? * How might one respond to this dilemma from the standpoint of Kantian ethics? * How might one respond to this dilemma from the standpoint of Virtue ethics?   **Respond** to the findings of at least three students explaining if you agree or disagree with them.  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 4.2, 4.3 | Blog = 1hr |
| **Just War Presentation**  **Create** a PowerPoint presentation of 10 to 15 slides on the topic of “just wars”. Include the following in your presentation:     * Principles for a “just war” according to Catholic social teaching. * Summarize the war in Afghanistan or choose another war from U.S. history or that of another country. * In light of the Catholic Just War Doctrine, was the conflict a justified war? * Present your own opinion on the issue and whether you agree or disagree with the Catholic teaching on the issue.   Be creative in your approach of creating the presentation (illustrations, animations, etc.)  *Note:* View the tutorial on creating a PowerPoint presentation for Microsoft 2010 at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ZUwFwooMrY>. You may also search further online for additional tutorials if needed.  **Cite** sources taken from the readings and format your presentation according to APA guidelines.  **Upload** your presentation to your Google Drive account and post a link within the body of the assignment section of Blackboard. Follow the tutorial below for instructions on using Google Drive.  **Review** the presentations of two students and provide constructive feedback on what you learned about their perspectives on a “just war”.  *Uploading and Sharing Files through Google Drive:*  **View** the Google Drive Tutorial [2:21] located at <https://vimeo.com/82113892>.  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 4.1, 2.1 | Presentation Project = 2hrs |
| **Week 4 Quiz**  **Complete** Week 4 Quiz. | | 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 | Quiz = 1hr |
| **Total** |  |  | **9 hours** |
| **Notes** |  | | |

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| Week Five: Ethics at the End of Life and Sexual Ethics | |  |  |
| ***Learning Objectives*** | | ***Alignment*** | |
| * 1. Discuss the ethical considerations involved in end of life care. | | CO3 | |
| * 1. Explain the ethical conflicts involved in human sexuality. | | CO3 | |
| * 1. Explain situation ethics and divine command theory as ethical theories. | | CO3 | |
| ***Required Learning Resources and Activities****: Students must complete any resources activities listed in this section as selected by the instructor.* | | ***Alignment*** | ***Pages/AIE/***  ***Generic*** |
| **Read** Ch. 9 and 10 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*. | | 5.1; 5.2 |  |
| **Read** Ch. 10 and 12 of *Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics*. | | 5.3 |  |
| **Review** Chapter 9 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answerONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * What is the difference between ordinary and extraordinary medical care? Which one is morally obligatory for the patient? * What is one of the arguments often put forward in favor of euthanasia/PAS? How does Catholic teaching respond to this argument?   **Respond** to other students explaining how you do or do not relate to their findings.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 5.1 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Review** Chapter 10 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*.  **Use** the concepts in the readings to answerONE of the following questions in 150 to 200 words:   * What is the **moral** difference between contraception and natural family planning? What is your personal take on the matter? * What is the position of the Catholic Church in regard to homosexuality? Why specifically does the Church teach that it is immoral? What is your personal take on the matter?   **Respond** to other students explaining how you do or do not relate to their findings.  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 5.2 | Discussion Board = 1hr |
| **Situation Ethics**  **Read**: “[About situation ethics](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/introduction/situation_1.shtml)”.  **Respond** in 150 to 200 words to the following in the discussion board:   * Summarize the essential aspects of situation ethics. How does this compare with Catholic moral teaching? Do the Catholic and situationist positions have the same definition of “love”?   **Respond** to the answers of two students by explaining how you agree or disagree with their stance(s).  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 5.3 | Lecture Activity = 1hr |
| **Divine Command Theory**  **View** the video on Divine Command Theory at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICgorxnF-qk>.  **Respond** in 150 to 200 words to the following in the discussion board:   * After viewing the video, summarize the essential aspects of divine command theory. How does this compare with Catholic moral teaching? Is something moral *because God commands it*, or does God command it *because it is moral*?   **Respond** to the answers of two students by explaining how you agree or disagree with their stance(s).  *Note*: Initial answers to the question are due by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Thursday. All responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on Sunday. | | 5.3 | Lecture Activity = 1hr |
| ***Assignment****: Students must complete the weekly assignment(s).* | | ***Alignment*** | ***Points/AIE/***  ***Generic*** |
| **Medical Ethics**  **Review** Ch. 9 of *Catholic Ethics in Today’s World*.  **Write** essay response of 700 to 1,050 words that includes the following:   * Description on one of the ethical issues (end of life care, status of embryo, etc.) raised in Ch. 9. * Present your own opinion on the issue. * Discuss your answer in light of Catholic teaching. Explain whether you agree or disagree with Catholic teaching on this issue and provide your rationale.   **Use** citations from the readings in your response.  **Format** your paper according to APA guidelines.  **Submit** your short response.  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 5.1 | Paper = 1hr |
| **Human Sexuality**  **Review** Ch. 10 of *Catholic Ethics for Today’s World*.  **Read** the article regarding two views of homosexuality at <https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/homosexuality-church-1>.  **Write** an essay of 250 to 350 words that includes the following:   * List the points made on both sides of the topic. Which side do you think makes the better case and why?   **Submit** your essay response.  *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 5.2 | Lecture Activity = 1hr |
| **Week 5 Ethical Case Study Journal**  **Read** the following scenario:  A woman was diagnosed with motor neurone disease (the same disease that Stephen Hawking has) five years ago. This is a condition that destroys motor nerves, making control of movement impossible, while the mind is virtually unaffected. People with motor neurone disease normally die within four years of diagnosis from suffocation due to the inability of the inspiratory muscles to contract. The woman's condition has steadily declined. She is not expected to live through the month, and is worried about the pain that she will face in her final hours. She asks her doctor to give her diamorphine for pain if she begins to suffocate or choke. This will lessen her pain, but it will also hasten her death. About a week later, she falls very ill, and is having trouble breathing.  (Case study taken from <http://www.scu.edu/ethics/publications/submitted/cirone/medical-ethics.html>)  **Answer** the following questions in a journal entry of 350 to 400 words:   * Should the physician give her the pain medication as she requests, knowing the dangers? * Assume we live in a state or country where physician-assisted suicide is legal, if she asked for the physician to prescribe a lethal dose of medication, is it morally acceptable for the physician to give the medication? * How might a proponent of situation ethics respond to this dilemma? What about a proponent of divine command theory?   *Due at [enter time] EST on [day].* | | 5.1; 5.3 | Case Study = 1hr |
| **Week 5 Quiz**  **Complete** Week 5 Quiz. | | 5.1; 5.2; 5.3 | Quiz = 1hr |
| **Total** |  |  | **8 hours** |
| **Notes** |  | | |

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# Breakdown of Academic Instructional Equivalencies

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| **Week 1** |  |  |
| Required |  | 9 |
| Supplemental |  |  |
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| **Week 2** |  |  |
| Required |  | 8 |
| Supplemental |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Week 3** |  |  |
| Required |  | 8 |
| Supplemental |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Week 4** |  |  |
| Required |  | 9 |
| Supplemental |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Week 5** |  |  |
| Required |  | 8 |
| Supplemental |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Required Hours** |  | 42 |
| **Total Supplemental Hours** |  |  |
| **Total Hours** |  |  |