

Saint Louis Christian College

GPH311 Ethics and Leadership

Professor: Richard Applegate

3 Credit Hours

Fall 2014

Course Prerequisite: None

Professor Contacts

Email: richsabr@sbcglobal.net

Phone: (evenings) 314-839-1061

Tuesday and Thursday

3:00 to 4:15 p.m.

Mission Statement:

Saint Louis Christian College pursues excellence in the Word and develops servant leaders for urban, suburban, rural, and global ministry.

Core Values:

As an institution of Christian higher education, Saint Louis Christian College embraces and promotes: 1) Bible knowledge, 2) Christian character, 3) Ministry skills, 4) Christian worldview, and 5) Christian community.

Course Description:

From the Catalog: "an overview of ministerial leadership, the various ethical theories and the people associated with them along with an emphasis on the biblical basis for ethics. Students then analyze the discussion of select ethical issues in light of the biblical instruction. Some of the issues may include abortion, euthanasia, sexuality, war, capital punishment, marriage and divorce."

Course Rationale:

Who am I? Where am I going? How should I live? These are often said to be the fundamental questions of ethical thought. This course will introduce students to some of the main themes of this discipline. To educate students about ethics is not the only purpose of this course. The aim is also to help them learn to think more clearly about ethical issues. Also students should think seriously about their own priorities in life.

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are improvement in the ability to THINK, READ, SPEAK, and WRITE about some of the fundamental questions of ethics. The five specific course objectives are:

1. To introduce key aspects of leadership in ministry and how to find the ministry you are best suited to function within the church.
2. To introduce several of the main questions posed by philosophers.
3. To expose the student to the different philosophies about how to live.
4. To help students better reflect on the meaning of their life.
5. To help students better express their thoughts in regard to ethical questions.

Course Textbooks:

Anderson, Kerby *Christian Ethics in Plain Language*, Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson. 2005.
Austin, Victor Lee *Christian Ethics: A Guide for the Perplexed*, New York: Bloomsbury Publishing. 2012.
Malphurs, Aubrey *Being Leaders: The Nature of Authentic Christian Leadership*, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books. 2003.

Course Requirements:

- A. There will be two exams. The first will account for 15% toward the final grade, and the final exam will count 15% toward the final grade.
- B. Participation in class discussions and reading quizzes will count 25% toward your final grade.
- C. Development of a personal code of ethics (to include biblical support) will count 15% toward the final grade.
- D. Book annotations will be required on one assigned book for reading. They will count 15% toward your final grade.
- E. Ethics Project report and presentation will count 15% toward your final grade.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required. Because there will be material given during lectures and class discussions that are not in our texts, it is incumbent upon you to minimize absences. If you have to miss any class, it is your responsibility to acquire any missed material from another student.

Attendance will be graded according to the following formula.

Absences Grade:

- 0-2 No points added or deducted
- 3 One point deducted from final average
- 4 Two points deducted from final average
- 5 Three points deducted from final average
- 6 Four points deducted from final average
- 7 Five points deducted from final average
- 8 Six points deducted from final average

Students with absences over 8 will be in violation of the College's "25% rule" and accordingly will be given a grade of "F" for the course. Tardies will be noted. Three tardies will be equivalent to an absence.

Class Promptness: Late arrivals disrupt the flow of the classroom. Tardiness or leaving class early will result in a deduction from your participation grade for that class period. Students missing more than 15 minutes of class will be counted as absent for that class session.

Cell Phones – Phones are to be turned OFF (including vibration mode) and put away before coming into the classroom. If the professor can see it or hear it you have violated this policy. *If you have an emergency phone call that you may need to receive please let the caller know ahead of time that they can reach you by calling the college at 314-837-6777, ext. 1520.*

Computers/Electronic Tablets – Computers may be used to take notes only. Web surfing and gaming during class will result in loss of computer privileges. Using your electronic device for some purpose that is not class-related is not only inappropriate and dishonest but also distracting to students sitting nearby. If you are seen using your laptop or tablet for something unrelated to class you will be asked to close it down and to not bring it to class again.

Course Policies:

1. Learning Disabilities: If you have a diagnosed learning disability, please see the Director of the Center for Student Success (“The Hundred”) or Prof. Karen Duffy to discuss strategies that may enhance your ability to learn. The professor cannot implement any special accommodations without authorization from Prof. Duffy.
2. Late assignments will receive an appropriate reduction of grade that will include consideration for the timeliness of completing the assignment.
3. Please understand that the Professor reserves the right to modify this course plan by changing topics, due dates, or even an assignment as long as it does not add to the students' work load.
4. Participation – The in-class participation score is an evaluation by the professor of the student's in-class involvement in activities, discussions, alertness, helpfulness, positive learning contributions and compliance to classroom rules.

Grading Guidelines:

Evaluation Description: These are the words and concepts that define the evaluation appraisals.

Excellent

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Excelled in the expectation | "I easily sensed your excellence" |
| • Satisfied the requirements | "left me with no questions" |
| • Maximum effort demonstrated | "got it done and then some" |
| • Creatively done | "fresh and worthwhile approach" |

Above Average

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Quality effort | "work was clearly understood" |
| • Somewhat creative | "left me with some questions" |
| • Somewhat detailed | "work was somewhat unclear" |

Acceptable

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Average in expectation | "got it done" |
| • Basic effort demonstrated | "I easily sensed this was acceptable" |
| • Acceptable work | "still some questions" |
| • OK, satisfactory | "sense limited effort in this work" |

Needs Work

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| • Did not meet the expectations | "I easily sensed this needs more work" |
| • Minimal effort demonstrated | "left me with too many questions" |
| • Little detail and creativity | "your work was unclear" |
| • Overlooked instructions | "barely got it done" |

Unacceptable

- No submission
- Partial submission
- Did not appear to try

Daily Assignments: Due to be completed by the class session with all written assignments to be turned in at the beginning of class. **There will be the possibility of a reading quiz to be given on each Tuesday at beginning of class.**

	Readings	Report Schedule
Week 1: August 20		
Week 2: August 26 August 28	Anderson -- chapters 1, 2, & 3 Anderson -- chp 4 & Malphurs – Chp 1 & Appendix C	
Week 3: September 2 September 4	Anderson -- chp5 & Malphurs – chp2 Malphurs – chapter 3	
Week 4: September 9 September 11	Malphurs – chapter 4 No Class – Missions Rally	Book Reports 1 and 2
Week 5: September 16 September 18	Malphurs – chapter 5 Malphurs – chapter 6	Book Reports 3 and 4 Book Reports 5, 6 & 7
Week 6: September 23 September 25	Malphurs – chapter 7 Malphurs – chapter 8	Book Reports 8, 9, and 10 Book Reports 11, 12, and 13
Week 7: September 30 October 2	Exam One Fall Break	
Week 8: October 7 October 9	Austin – chapter 1 Austin – chapter 2	Book Report 14 Book Report 15
Week 9: October 14 October 16	No Class No Class	
Week 10: October 21 October 23	Austin – chapter 3 Austin – chapter 4	Book Report 16 Book Report 17
Week 11: October 28 October 30	Austin – chapter 5 Austin – chapter 6	Personal Codes 1 and 2 Personal Codes 3 and 4
Week 12: November 4 November 6	Austin – chapter 7	Personal Codes 5 and 6 Personal Codes 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12
Week 13: November 11 November 13	Anderson – chapters 6, 7, 8, 9	Personal Codes 13, 14, 15, 16 & 17 Ethics Project 1, 2, 3, 4
Week 14: November 18 November 20	Anderson – chapters 10, 11, 12, 13 Anderson – chapters 14, 15, 16, 17	Ethics Project 5, 6, 7, 8 Ethics Project 9, 10, 11, 12
Week 15: November 24 and 26	Thanksgiving Break	
Week 16: December 2 December 4	Anderson – chapters 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 Final Exam Review	Ethics Project 13, 14, 15 Ethics Project 16, 17
Week 17: December 9 December 12	FINAL EXAMS	

Course Learning Resources:

- Basham, Gregory and Eric Bronson (editors). *The Lord of the Rings and Philosophy*. Chicago: Open Court Publishing. 2004.
- Bilezikian, Gilbert. *Community 101*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing. 1997.
- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Ethics*. New York: Simon & Schuster. 1995.
- Bronson, Eric (editor): *Baseball and Philosophy*. Chicago: Open Court Publishing. 2004.
- Brown, Steve. *When Being Good Isn't Enough*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books. 1990.
- Burson, Scott R. and Jerry L Walls. *C.S. Lewis & Francis Schaeffer: Lessons for a New Century from The Most Influential Apologists of Our Time*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP. 1998.
- Colson, Charles. *The Good Life*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House. 2005.
- Dickerson, Matthew. *Following Gandalf*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press. 2003.
- Ford, Leighton. *Transforming Leadership*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP. 1991.
- Foster, Richard. *Money, Sex & Power*. San Francisco: Harper & Row. 1985.
- Geisler, Norman L. and Paul D. Feinberg. *Introduction to Philosophy: A Christian Perspective*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House. 1980.
- Getz, Gene A. *Real Prosperity: Biblical Principles of Material Possessions*. Chicago: Moody Press. 1990.
- Gill, David W. *Becoming Good, Building Moral Character*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP. 2000.
- Gill, David W. *Doing Right: Practicing Ethical Principles*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP. 2004.
- Guinness, Os. *Dining with the Devil: The Megachurch Movement Flirts with Modernity*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books. 1993
- Guinness, Os and John Seel (editors). *No God But God*. Chicago: Moody Press. 1992.
- Jones, David Clyde. *Biblical Christian Ethics*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House. 1994.
- Kouzes, James M. and Posner, Barry Z. *Credibility*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. 1993.
- Kouzes, James M. and Posner, Barry Z. *Encouraging the Heart*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. 1999.
- Kouzes, James M. and Posner, Barry Z. *The Leadership Challenge*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. 2002.
- Lewis, C. S. *The Abolition of Man*. New York: Macmillan Company. 1947.
- Lewis, C. S. *The Pilgrim's Regress*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing. 1943.
- Schaeffer, Francis A. *How Should We Then Live?* Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books. 2005.
- Schein, Edgar H. *Organizational Culture and Leadership*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. 1987.
- Schwarz, Christian A. *Natural Church Development*. St. Charles, IL: Church Smart Resources. 2003.

Sire, James W. *The Universe Next Door: A Basic Worldview Catalog*, Downers Grove, IL: IVP. 2009.

Smedes, Lewis B. *Mere Morality*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing. 1983.

Sproul, R. C. *The Consequences of Ideas*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books. 2000.

Sproul, R. C. *In Search of Dignity*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books. 1983.

Willard, Dallas. *The Divine Conspiracy*. San Francisco: Harper Books. 1998.

Willard, Dallas. *Hearing God*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP. 1999.

Willard, Dallas. *Renovation of the Heart*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress. 2002.

Annotations:

An annotation is a brief summary of a book, article, or other publication. Its purpose is to describe the work in such a way that the reader can decide whether or not to read the work itself.

The following six points provide guidance for writing an annotation.

1. The authority and the qualifications of the author, unless extremely well known, should be clearly stated. Preferably this is to be done early in the annotation.
2. The scope and main purpose of the text must be explained. This is usually done in three or four short sentences. Unlike an abstract, which is an abridgement or synopsis, the writer cannot hope to summarize the total content of the work.
3. The relation of other works, if any, in the field is usually worth noting.
4. The major bias or standpoint of the author in relation to his theme should be clarified.
5. The audience and the level of reading difficulty should be indicated. The comment(s) will serve to warn you and other readers away from writings which are too elementary or too scholarly.
6. At this point the annotation might conclude with a summary comment in regard to the overall scope of the work.

By definition, annotations are short notes and are normally no more than 150 words. Verbosity is the major sin; brevity and clarity the goal.

The publisher, edition, title and author should be clearly indicated at the beginning of the annotation page.

The name of the person doing the annotation and the date of completion should also be included.

Presentation Guidelines for Ethics Project:

Length: 5 to 10 pages.

Sources: Minimum of 3 (not including Scripture)

Footnotes: Yes

Bibliography: Yes

Content:

- 1> Declaration of the ethical issue(s)
- 2> Pro and con arguments presented by the opposing views
- 3> Statement of your position and justification for your position

Presentation Options:

Abortion

Adultery

Artificial Reproduction

Capital Punishment

Church/State Separation

Civil Disobedienc

Cohabitation

Digital Technology

Drugs

Divorce

Environmental Concerns

Euthanasia

Gambling

Genetic Engineering

Homosexuality

Infanticide

Media and Entertainment

Pornography

Racial Issues

War and Peace

Code of Ethics Guidelines:

1. Minimum of 12 specifics within the personal code of ethics. Maximum of 25 specifics.
2. Specifics should be separated into appropriate subgroups.
3. Each statement of a specific ethical consideration should include appropriate scriptural references.
4. Some ethical statements should reflect on who you want to be; others should reflect on what you will do.
5. All should be representative of a professional ministry career.
6. Include an introductory section and also a summary section.