

Required readings —All readings are on Canvas

COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK OF:

- Jan 8 What is ethics?
- 15 Ethical Theory: Lazari-Pawlowska, Cultural Relativism
- 22 Plato, Divine Command; Thomas Aquinas, Natural law
Locke, Social Contract; Hobbes, Social Contract
- 29 Mill, Utilitarianism
- Feb 5 Kant, Deontology
- 12 Aristotle, Virtue Theory
- TEST I, online Feb 19 (1 PM) – Feb 21 (11 PM)
- 19 Ethics in Practice: Abortion
Noonan, against abortion
- 26 Tooley, abortion & personhood
- March 5 Thomson, abortion & bodily autonomy
- 19 World hunger: Singer, duties to strangers; Narveson, hunger & liberty
- SPRING BREAK
- TEST II, online March 26 (1 PM) – 28 (11 PM)
- 26 Euthanasia: Gay-Williams, against euthanasia; Abrams, active and passive
euthanasia
- 29 Animals: Kant, animals & duties; Cohen, animal & rights

(31 Last day to drop without receiving an “F”)

April 2 Singer, animal suffering; Regan, animal cruelty

9 Environment: Leopold, the Land Ethic; Callicott, postmodern nature

TEST III, online April 16 (1 PM) – 18 (11 PM)

16 Capital Punishment: Van den Haag, Death Penalty—deterrence works

23 Bedau, Death Penalty—deterrence does not work

FINAL, online April 30 (1 pm) – May 3 (11 pm)

Due to unforeseen events, alteration of the assignment schedule may be necessary. If such occurs, I shall do my best to inform you as early as possible.

COURSE CONTENT: Ethics is a field of philosophical study dealing with matters of right and wrong, good and evil, moral obligation, and virtue. Our purpose is twofold: to examine leading ethical theories and to apply those theories to various contemporary issues. Your personal views are of interest in this course only in so far as they can be supported by sound reasoning and clear expression.

GRADES: (1) Tests: You will have four tests: tests I, II, III, and a final. Each test will consist of 25 multiple choice questions plus an essay. The final will focus on material since test III but will also be cumulative. No make-up tests will be given. I shall drop your lowest grade of the first three tests. If you miss a test, that will count for your dropped grade. If you miss a second test, you will get a “0.” If you miss the final, you fail the course. (2) Grade Calculation: Tests combine for 75%, and class participation/discussion boards count for 25% of the course grade. (3) Commitment: Students who are sincerely committed to success in this course will not fail. Evidence of sincere commitment is substantial class participation. (4) Posting Grades: Final grades will be posted online. I shall not tell you your grade earlier. (5) Grading Scale: A=100-90; B+=89-87; B=86-80; C+=79-77; C=76-70; D=69-60; F=59 or below.

Be sure to read “College Policies, Important Dates, and Campus Resources” at left on the home page.

Office Hours- The best way to contact me is through Canvas. You can also e-mail at cooperr@cf.edu. Always include your student number and the name of the course when you email a professor. If you need to see me in person, we can make an appointment, and you must wear a mask. Building 8, room 100F, 352-854-2322 x1295.

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| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 2-4:30 p.m. | OFFICE online | OFFICE online | OFFICE online | OFFICE online | |

| Institutional Learning Outcomes | Quiz | Exam | Project/ Paper | Classroom Activity | Service Learning |
|--|------|------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Communication: The student will read, write, speak, and listen effectively. | | | | | |
| 1. Read materials and effectively understand essential facts and concepts. | | X | | | |
| Global Socio-Cultural Responsibility: The student will be an informed and responsible citizen in social, cultural, and global matters. | | | | | |
| 1. Demonstrate an understanding of the values and expressions of other cultures that arise from human experience. | | X | | | |

