The University of Manitoba  
Department of Philosophy  
Ethics and the Environment PHIL 2750 Section A01  
Summer 2019  
Class Location: 303 Tier  
Class Time: M/T/W/R/F 1:30pm-3:30pm

Instructor: Gerry Beaulieu  
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Office Hours: After class and by appointment

_I strongly encourage you to come and discuss with me the course material, and any related philosophical matters, during my office hours._

This course will serve as an introduction to philosophical ethics and value theory by way of application to various issues related to the environment, such as: animal welfare, climate change, population growth, and poverty. In treating these issues, three traditional ethical theories will receive special attention: utilitarianism, deontology, and virtue ethics. These theories will help us evaluate various proposals in dealing with environmental issues but they will also be challenged by certain philosophical perspectives on the environment. For example, “deep ecologists” argue that traditional ethical theories fail us when it comes to developing an adequate environmental ethics because of their focus on individuals within the environment rather than on ecosystems as a whole.

_Required Textbook:_


_Final Grade Breakdown:_

First Test on June 7\(^{th}\) (20%)  
Second Test on June 13\(^{th}\) (30%)  
Third Test on June 19\(^{th}\) (30%)  
Fourth Test on June 25\(^{th}\) (20%)  

A+ = 95-100  
A = 90-94  
B+ = 85-89  
B = 80-84  
C+ = 75-79  
C = 70-74  
D = 60-69  
F = 0-59
Course Administration

Daily readings will be announced in class. You must come to class having done the assigned readings for the day and be prepared to discuss them.

Details regarding exams (e.g., topics and format) will be addressed in class and on UM Learn.

The material we will be discussing is often challenging. Properly engaging with it requires a civil forum free from any distraction. Behavior that disrupts this forum can negatively affect your grade. Examples of disruptive behavior include showing up late to class, personal conversations during class, texting or surfing the internet during class, packing up your things before class is over, and comments that are disrespectful or offensive.

Please be acquainted with the University’s policy on plagiarism, cheating, and exam personation: http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/students/index.html

Students with special learning needs who require accommodations such as extended test times should present themselves to Student Accessibility Services at the beginning of the term.

Student Resources

Here are a few general resources for students:

**The Learning Assistance Centre** is located in 201Tier Building. Advisors provide a wide range of services focused on improvement of academic learning skills. In addition to individual consultations, the Centre offers workshops on test-taking, note-taking, essay and term paper writing, and listening skills.

**Writing Tutors** operate from both the Elizabeth Dafoe Library and the Learning Assistance Centre and can be accessed either by appointment or on a drop-in basis. Check scheduled hours of availability on-line through the Learning Assistance Centre site or the Elizabeth Dafoe Library site.

**The Virtual Learning Commons** is a unique learning and social networking site at the University of Manitoba. Students can access Writing Tutors and a variety of Learning Assistance Centre resources on-line at: www.umanitoba.ca/virtuallearningcommons.