

PHILOSOPHY 2290 (A01) – ETHICS AND SOCIETY (RL)
COURSE SYLLABUS

11:30-12:45 T-Th

Instructor: Dave Hampton

UC 468

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Office Hours: 1:00-2:20 T-Th

Course Description: This course will examine the application of normative ethical theory in two topic areas. We will begin by looking at ethical justifications of punishment. Our second topic, climate change, is drawn from environmental ethics. With these topics, punishment and climate change, we will try to expose some of the challenges and limits of modern moral theory.

Required Text: none, all readings for the course will be posted to UM Learn

Student Evaluation:

Test	20%
Term Essay	30%
Final Examination	50%

Important Note: Final course grades are subject to the approval of the Faculty of Arts and may be subject to change in order to fall within the parameters set by this Faculty.

Evaluation Explanations:

Test: There will be one open book test worth 20% of the student's term grade on March 9th. The test will consist of short answer questions covering the preceding course material on the justification of punishment.

Term Essay: There will be one short (1250 words; @ 5 pp.) argumentative essay due on Mar 12. Students will be provided with a selection of topic questions to choose from roughly around the time of the winter break. The essay will be worth 30% of the student's course grade for the winter term.

Final Examination: The final examination will be scheduled in the end-of-term exam period. It will be 3 hours long and it will be 'open book.' The exam will consist of two parts. Part A will consist of short answer questions concerning the material from the climate change section of the course. Students will compose one essay from a set of topic questions for Part B. Part B topics will concern climate change. The final exam is worth 50% of the student's term grade.

Late Policy: Overdue work will only be accepted with a documented medical excuse or on the basis of a serious personal crisis. Note that failing to manage one's time is not a 'serious personal crisis.'

Academic Dishonesty: Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on plagiarism, cheating and examination impersonation (see the University of Manitoba Academic Regulations, Undergraduate Calendar, 2020-21). Please note that the Philosophy Department possesses a 'no tolerance' policy with regard to exam offences.

Approximate Grade Scale:

A+	90%+	A	80-89%	B+	75-79%	B	67-74%
C+	60-66%	C	50-59%	D	45-49%	F	<45%

APPROXIMATE SCHEDULE

COURSE INTRODUCTION & ETHICAL THEORY RECAP

- Jan 19 Course Syllabus & expectations; Begin review of ethical theory
Jan 21 Read Williston, Introduction to *Environmental Ethics for Canadians*
Jan 26 Read excerpt from Plato's *Republic*; excerpt from Hume's *A Treatise on Human Nature*;
pp. 1-7 of Anscombe's "Modern Moral Philosophy"; Sections I and III of Strawson's
"The Impossibility of Moral Responsibility"

ETHICAL JUSTIFICATIONS OF PUNISHMENT

- Jan 28 Read excerpts from Kant, *Metaphysics of Morals* and Caesar Beccaria, "Essays on
Crimes and Punishments"
Jan 29 **Voluntary Withdrawal Date for fall/wtr spanned courses**
Feb 2 Continue Kant & Beccaria, Read Schedler
Feb 4 Read Rawls, "Two Concepts of Rules"
Feb 9 Continue Rawls
Feb 11 Read Hampton, J., "The Moral Education Theory of Punishment"

Feb 15 Louis Riel Day
Feb 16-19 Winter Term Break, no classes

Feb 23 Continue Hampton
Feb 25 Read Shafer-Landau, "Can Punishment Morally Educate?"
Mar 2 Continue Shafer-Landau
Mar 4 Tips for the Test
Mar 9 **Test**

ETHICS & CLIMATE CHANGE

- Mar 11 Review Climate Change 2014 IPCC Synthesis Report and 2018 IPCC Summary
Mar 16 **Essay Due**; Continue review of climate change
Mar 18 Read Simon, "Can the Supply of Natural Resources Really be Infinite? Yes!"
Mar 23 Continue Simon; Read Jamieson, "Ethics, Public Policy and Global Warming"
Mar 25 Continue Jamieson
Mar 30 Continue Hampton; Read Gardiner, "A Perfect Moral Storm"
Apr 1 Continue Gardiner
Apr 6 Read Gardiner, "Saved by Disaster?"
Apr 8 Continue Gardiner; Read Hursthouse, "Environmental Virtue Ethics"
Apr 13 Continue Hursthouse

Apr 15 Tips for the Final Exam

Apr 19-May 1 Final Exam Period