

Philosophy 103

Ethics and Society

3 unit; 3 hours lecture

Recommended Preparation: Eligibility for English 1A

Degree applicable Transfer CSU and UC

This course offers a critical study of the major ethical theories and their application to contemporary moral issues, such as abortion, the death penalty, poverty, war, and euthanasia.

Course Objectives:

1. Explain and discuss the major components of the primary moral theories, including utilitarianism, Kant's absolutist duty ethics, virtue ethics, and social contract theory.
 - Multiple Choice
2. Analyze and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of each of the primary moral theories.
 - Essay exams
3. Specifically distinguish teleological (consequentialist) ethics from deontological ethics.
 - Multiple Choice
4. Apply the primary moral theories to various contemporary moral issues.
 - Essay exams
5. Analyze and evaluate the evidence, facts, and arguments on the competing sides of various contemporary issues such as abortion, the death penalty, poverty, war, and euthanasia.
 - Essay exams
6. Discuss the competing arguments regarding whether moral values are relative to individuals and/or cultures or countries, or rather, are objective and universally applicable.
 - Multiple Choice
7. Explain and analyze possible female perspectives on morality, such as an ethics of care, and the advantages and disadvantages of such an ethics compared to the primary moral theories which have been propounded by men.
 - Essay exams
8. Differentiate and evaluate various theories of social justice and the proper role of government, such as Rawl's social contract theory, Libertarianism, Paternalism, and Mill's views on the limits of government intrusions into personal lives.
 - Multiple Choice

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

1. Primary Moral Theories Students will be able to identify the primary moral theories, including Kantian duty ethics, Utilitarianism, and Virtue Ethics, distinguish the primary difference between the theories, and evaluate the strengths and weakness of each theory.
2. Moral Theories Students will be able to apply moral theories, including those of Utilitarianism, Kantian duty ethics, and Virtue Ethics to contemporary moral issues.
3. Arguing Contemporary Moral Issues Students will be able to critically evaluate facts and arguments of both sides of contemporary moral issues.

ADA Statement:

El Camino College is committed to providing educational accommodations for students with disabilities upon the timely request by the student to the instructor. A student with a disability, who would like to request an academic accommodation, is responsible for identifying herself/himself to the instructor and to the Special Resource Center. To make arrangements for academic accommodations, contact the Special Resource Center.

Student Code of Conduct

<https://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/2019-policies/AP%205500%20Student%20Conduct%20.pdf>

Student Rights and Grievances Procedure 5530

<https://www.elcamino.edu/administration/board/boarddocs/AP%205530%20STUDENT%20%20RIGHTS%20AND%20GRIEVANCES.pdf>