**Course Information**

**Course Title: Introduction to Ethics**

**Course Prefix & Number:** PHIL 2306 S2W1 WEB

**Semester & Year: SUMMER 2 2023**

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| **Instructor Information** |

**Instructors Name: Donnie A. Lewis, D.Min.**

**Office Location and #: Social Sciences**

**Office Phone: 903-276-1257**

**Email:**

**Office Hours: donnie.lewis@texarkanacollege.edu**

**Adjunct or part time instructors do not have offices on campus. Email me and set up a time to meet with me online or on campus.**

Please always use TC email or phone me at 903-276-1257.

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| **Course Description** |

This course is designed to include study of the major moral theories. Students will have the opportunity to apply these theories to today’s most pressing concerns.

**Pre/Co-requisite**

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| **Textbook & Course Materials** |

**Required Text:**  Ethics: Theory and Contemporary Issues, (Ninth Ed.) by Barbara MacKinnon and Andrew Fiala, (Cengage Learning, 2016)

**ISBN: 978-1-305-95867-8, this book can be purchased in the bookstore. You can also buy it or rent it from Amazon.com.** You can also buy it from the publisher, Cengage Learning.

Go to Cengage.com to rent a copy or buy a digital copy. Be sure there is time for the book to get to you!

**Other Course Materials:**

**Microsoft Office:** Texarkana College offers Office 365 to all students. Instructions on how to   
 download this free software can be located at   
 <https://www.texarkanacollege.edu/helpdesk/install-office-2013>.

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| **Computer Requirements** |

**Access:** This is an online course. You will need to have access to a computer. If you do not   
 have access to a computer off campus, there are computers located in the Palmer Memorial   
 Library that may be used by students. It is best if you have high speed internet access.

**Operating System:**

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| Windows Operating System | | Mac OS X Operating System | |
| **Minimum System Requirements** | | **Minimum System Requirements** | |
| Operating System: | Windows XP | Operating System: | OS X 10.6 (Snow Leopard) |
| Processor: | 1.7 GHz | Processor: | 1.83 GHz |
| RAM: | 1 GB | Memory: | 1 GB |
| Browser: | Firefox 4.0 Internet Explorer 8 | Browser: | Firefox 4.0 Safari 4.0 |

**Computer Hardware Requirements**:

* Internet Access: High speed internet connection such as   
  cable modem or DSL
* Processor: 2GHz processor
* Memory: 1GB RAM; 4 GB free hard drive space
* Some courses and/or assignments may require the use of a webcam.
* The learning management system is optimized for desktop displays; tablet and smartphone users should use the Mobile Apps. **Always** use a wired desktop or laptop to take you quizzes and exams on.

**Browser:** Texarkana College’s Learning Management System (Jenzabar’s eLearning) suggests   
 that students use the most current version of the Internet Explorer browser. You can download   
 Internet Explorer by going to:  
 [https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/internet-explorer.aspx](%20%20%20https:/www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/internet-explorer.aspx%20)

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| **Student Learning Outcomes** |

**Great Minds of Philosophy**

To become familiar with the great minds of philosophy and ethics.

**Questions**

To learn to ask significant questions.

**Truth**

To develop a desire to find truth.

**The Vocabulary of Ethics and Philosophy**

To become acquainted with the vocabulary of ethics and philosophy.

**Ethical Philosophy of Life**

To acquire basic tools to help in developing one’s own ethical philosophy of life.

**Critical Thinking**

To begin to think systematically and analytically about important issues in life.

**Communication between Instructor and Student**

All communication in the course will be conducted through email, telephone, or text. I will respond to emails within 24-48 hours.  If you have not received a reply within that time limit, please resend. All email communications must be through your TC email account.

Feel free to give me a telephone call if you cannot reach me be email or text. Email is the preferred method of communication.

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| **Grading** |

**Online Issues: This is not a self-paced class.** An online course covers the same material as a classroom course. You have some flexibility in determining WHEN you work on the online course, but there are regular and specific deadlines for assignments and “windows” for discussions. Exams and quizzes will be open for a specific time and then closed. Be sure to keep up with the timing. In this online course you may not have to be physically present at a particular place and time as in a traditional class, but it does not demand less time or effort. In fact, online classes tend to take MORE time and discipline than face-to-face classes. ***I expect you to check your TC email once every 24 hours at a minimum, including weekends.*** This means that you will need to make sure that you have some way to be able to use the internet regularly. Have a backup plan in case your home computer/internet connection goes down. **Texarkana College is not responsible for issues related to your computer or internet service. Problems with your computer or internet service is not an excuse for not completing your assignments by their deadline.**

Your performance in this class is evaluated through quizzes, exams, and discussions. The quizzes measure your understanding of the textbook. The exams evaluate your comprehension of this course in moral philosophy. The discussions encourage critical thinking and demonstrate your ability to apply your own moral code to concrete situations.

**Grading Scale:**

A = 90-100  
 B = 80-89  
 C = 70-79  
 D = 60-69  
 F = 59 and below

**Student Assessment**

Grading Formula: Quizzes=20% Discussions=20% Exam 1=20% Exam 2=20% Final Exam=20%

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| **Activities/Assignments** |

**How the Course is Organized**   
This course is organized in topics. You will work on 1 or 2 topics each week.. The quizzes, discussions, assignments, and exams are explained, below.

**Quizzes and Discussions**

You will take one quiz each day (Monday-Thursday) over the assigned reading in the textbook. The quizzes are taken online in the Moodle Learning platform. You will find them in each topic in PHIL 2306 S2W1 WEB. The quizzes are 20 per cent of your grade. You will participate in the discussions listed in each toopic. The discussions will be over case studies (in the textbook and from outside sources) movies or videos, current issues and/or case studies. You must post **two times** or more in each discussion. The first post will be answers to the questions listed, and the second post will be a **reply to another student’s post.** The discussions are 20 per cent of your grade. Discussions are found under each topic. You must complete your discussions by the due date listed in your Class Schedule in this syllabus on page 5. **You will find the videos under each topic, if there is a video.**

[**Exams**](javascript:doEdit(6992818620001))  
You will take three exams in this course online. You will find the 3 exams in Topic 16, Exams. Exam #1 is scheduled for July 17, 2023, Exam #2 is scheduled for July 26, 2023, and the Final Exam is scheduled for Aug. 7, 2023.

Go to the **Welcome Page**. This page will familiarize you with the mechanics of this class, and tell you what to do first.

**Class Expectations**

Students are expected to login the first 1st day of class and begin working on their assignments immediately. You are expected to **log in every day of each week** to check on announcements. **Log in on Sunday for attendance purposes**. Announcements can be found in emails. You are expected to read all assigned reading, take quizzes, view power point lectures, participate in discussions, and take three exams. You must take quizzes, complete discussions, and take exams on the dates given in *Class Schedule* on page 5 of this syllabus.

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| **Class Schedule** |

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| **Topic** | **Assigned Readings** | **Activities** | **Due Date** |
| Introductory Lecture |  | Introductory PPT | 7-5 |
| Ethics and Ethical Reasoning | Chapter 1 p 1-19 | Quiz 1 & PowerPoint 1  Disc. Can Ethics be taught? | 7-6 |
| Religion and Global Ethics | Chapter 2 p. 21-43 | Quiz 2 & PowerPoint 2  Disc. Divine Command Theory | 7-10 |
| Ethical Relativism | Chapter 3 p. 44-67 | Quiz 3 & PowerPoint 3  Disc. on James Byrd, Jr. | 7-11 |
| Egoism, Altruism, and the Social Contract | Chapter 4 pp. 68-79 | Quiz 4 & PowerPoint 4  Disc. on David Cash | 7-12 |
| Utilitarianism | Chapter 5 p 93-113 | Quiz 5 & PowerPoint 5  Disc. on Use of Torture | 7-13 |
| **Exam 1** | **Covers chapters 1-5** | **12 hours to take exam** | **7-17** |
| Kantian Moral Theory | Chapter 6 pp.114-137 | Quiz 6 & PowerPoint 6  Disc Conseq. & Non-conseq. | 7-18 |
| Natural Law and Human Rights | Chapter 7 pp.138-154 | Quiz 7 & PowerPoint 7  Disc. on movie, “Conspiracy” | 7-19 |
| Virtue Ethics | Chapter 8 p 155-170 | Quiz 8 & PowerPoint 8  Disc. on Virtue Ethics | 7-20 |
| Feminist Thought and Ethics of Care | Chapter 9 p 171-198 | Quiz 9 & PowerPoint 9  Disc. on Ethics of Care | 7-24 |
| Euthanasia | Chapter10 p 199-230 | Quiz 10 & PowerPoint 10  Disc. on Teen Euthanasia | 7-25 |
| **Exam 2** | **Covers chapters 6-10** | **12 hours to take exam** | **7-26** |
| Abortion | Chapter11 p.231-275 | Quiz 11 & PowerPoint 11  Disc. Pregnant Woman Detained | 7-27 |
| Sexual Morality | Chapter12 p.278-308 | Quiz 12 & PowerPoint 12  Disc. on Defining Marriage | 7-31 |
| Equality and Discrimination | Chapter13 p. 309-343 | Quiz 13 & PowerPoint 13  Disc. on The First Waco Horror | 8-1 |
| Economic Justice | Chapter14 p. 344-374 | Quiz 14 & PowerPoint 14 Disc. On Inequality | 8-2 |
| The Death Penalty and Capital Punishment | Chapter15 p. 375-395 | Quiz 15 & PowerPoint  Disc. On Capital Punishment | 8-3 |
| **Final Exam** | **Chapters 11-15** | **12 Hours to take Exam** | **8-7** |

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| **Absentee Policy** |

Because you do not come on campus and sit in a classroom, attendance is determined by your active participation and communication in the course. Make sure that you log in frequently, participate in your course activities and discussions, and check your TC email often. Students who succeed in online classes keep a schedule just as they would if they were attending class on campus, and they communicate with one another and their instructor frequently. Attendance is vital to your success. Check TC email each day.

Absence in an **online course** is defined as the lack of an active post or submission within the course including discussion board posts, quizzes, and tests. This standard will be used to determine all absentee issues, including but not limited to, \_\_\_ Day Census Reports, last date of attendance, and involuntary withdrawal from a course due to absences. All online students must complete an Enrollment Verification activity within the first week of class (**turn in a student information form**); otherwise the professor **may** drop the student for not having attended.

**Log in every day for attendance. This is a summer class which moves extremely fast.**

A student should not stop attending a class without formally withdrawing from the course by the institutions published Last Day for Students to Drop. If a student stops attending class after the published Last Day for Students to Drop, the student **may** receive a grade of “F” in the class. The instructor will submit the last date of attendance for students receiving a grade of “F” or “W”.

Withdrawal from a course(s) **may** affect a student’s current or future financial aid eligibility. Students should consult the Financial Aid Office to learn both short and long term consequences of a withdrawal.

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| **Make-up Policy / Late Work** |

**You must have very good reasons for being late with quizzes and exams.** **You must take quizzes and exams at the time scheduled in this syllabus. Discussions must be completed by their due dates.**

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| Academic Dishonesty Policy |

Scholastic dishonesty, involving but not limited to cheating on a test, plagiarism, collusion, or falsification of records will make the student liable for disciplinary action after being investigated by the Dean of Students. Proven violations of this nature will result in the student being dropped from the class with an “F”.

This policy applies campus wide, including TC Testing Center, as well as off-campus classroom or lab sites, including dual credit campuses. This information can be found in the TC Catalog/Student Handbook at <https://texarkanacollege.edu>.

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| **Disability Act Statement** |

Texarkana College complies with all provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and makes reasonable accommodations upon request. Please contact Larry Andrews at 903.823.3349, or go by his office located in the Palmer Memorial Library.

If you have an accommodation letter from his office indicating that you have a disability which requires academic accommodations, please present it to me so we can discuss the accommodations that you might need for this class. *It is best to request these changes at the beginning if not before the start of class* so there is ample time to make the accommodations.

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| **Financial Aid** |

**Attention!** Dropping this class may affect your funding in a negative way! You could owe money to the college and/or federal government. Please check with the Financial Aid office before making the decision to drop a course.

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| **Complaint Process** |

The complaint process can be found at <https://www.texarkanacollege.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/online-classes-complaint-procedure.pdf>.

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| **Netiquette** |

“Netiquette” is the term used to describe rules of courtesy in using electronic communication. These rules are intended to help use the medium effectively and considerately. The ideas below are intended to help with electronic class discussion.

When communicating in an online course you are addressing a group of people. The following guidelines will help you to communicate effectively.

* Don’t say things that you wouldn't say in a face-to-face environment, or in any public place.
* Don’t share confidential information.
* Use the subject line to identify the content of the message.
* Stay up-to-date on forum postings by reading them regularly.
* Always comply with copyright by citing your references when posting online content.
* Use individual e-mail for messages to individuals rather than tying up the group list.
* Do not forward emails or discussion forum postings without asking permission to from the original author.
* Electronic communication does not provide visual cues, such as smiles or frowns that face-to-face communication allows. Therefore, humor and/or sarcasm in written text might be misunderstood and interpreted as rude or inflammatory in the online environment. Choose your words carefully to avoid hurting, or angering anyone. Should emotions become inflamed, do not promote the anger. Take a cooling down period, perhaps overnight, before you engage in the online activity again.
* Avoid using all capital letters in your text. This is considered ‘shouting’ in the online classroom.
* Aim for clarity and readability in your text.
* Use proper English and remember to spell check.
* If you do not understand the assignment’s directions or the posts of your classmates don’t be afraid to ask for clarification.
* The online classroom is a community of learners. Participate actively in the community and reach out to your classmates with a helping hand.

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| **Technical Assistance** |

Texarkana College offers students several ways to access technical assistance for IT issues as well as their Online classrooms.

**General IT issues**  
Help Desk Link from TC's main webpage: <https://www.texarkanacollege.edu/helpdesk>  
Phone: 903-823-3030  
Email: [helpdesk@texarkanacollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@texarkanacollege.edu)

**Moodle and MyTC learning issues**  
TC Online Web Page: <https://www.texarkanacollege.edu/online>

Call the Help Desk  
   Email: [bart.upchurch@texarkanacollege.edu](mailto:bart.upchurch@texarkanacollege.edu)   
     Phone: Call the Help Desk