

Introduction to Ethics (PHIL 160) Section 16 (#5900)-- CSU Long Beach -- Fall 2009
7:00-9:45 p.m. - Wednesdays - LA5-246 - Julie Van Camp, Professor of Philosophy

OFFICE: MHB-703

OFFICE HOURS: Monday: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

TELEPHONE: NONE

[Faculty phones have been removed due to the budget crisis. Please use e-mail to contact me]

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Course Objectives

1. Analyze, criticize and advocate ethical ideas and generate multiple explanations of options for action, based on understanding of fundamental concepts and relationships of ethics;
2. Demonstrate skill in ethical reasoning and problem-solving, recognizing and using relevant ethical principles;
3. Identify and question implicit assumptions in ethical positions, evaluate and criticize constructively one's own thinking processes about ethical issues and the reasoning of others, recognizing common errors of thought and language;
4. Demonstrate ability to apply the lessons, skills and distinction in a range of ethical issues as they arise in other disciplines and areas of study throughout the university.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

The semester grade will be based on three in-class examinations; activity point options (for reports on films and quizzes on Beachboard and the Wadsworth Publishing site), and attendance points at the main lecture. All exams and quizzes are open-book-open-notes.

IN-CLASS QUIZ. Wednesday, September 16 -- Unit I (12 points): 7:15 - 8:00 p.m.

The quiz will be an open-book-open-notes 12-question quiz on terminology and concepts in Unit I. The quiz is intended as an early check on your comprehension of the class readings and lectures. Students should bring to class a Scantron form 882-E, a #2 pencil, and a good eraser.

EXAM II. MID-TERM. Wednesday, October 28 -- Units I and II (24 points): 7:15 - 9:15 p.m.

The exam will be an open-book-open-notes 24-question exam on Units I and II. Students should bring a Scantron form 882-E, a #2 pencil, and a good eraser. The questions will test your understanding of the issues and reasoning in these units.

EXAM III. FINAL. Wednesday, December 16 - 7:15 - 9:15 p.m. – Units I and III (24 points)

The final exam will be an open-book-open-notes 24-question exam on Units I and II. Students should bring a Scantron form 882-E, a #2 pencil, and a good eraser. The questions will test your understanding of the issues and reasoning in these units.

EXAM II and III Grades: Up to 24 points are available, as follows:

Grade	Points	Grade	Points
A+	24-23	C+	12-11
A	22-21	C	10-9
A-	20-19	C-	8-7
B+	18-17	D+	6-5
B	16-15	D	4-3
B-	14-13	D-	2-1

Make-up exams will be permitted only for serious illness and mandatory University policies. A physicians' note will be required for illness. If you will need to take a make-up exam, you must leave a message on e-mail (jvancamp@csulb.edu) no later than 6:00 p.m. the day of the exam. Your message must include a

telephone number where I can reach you later that afternoon/evening and the next day to schedule the make-up exam.

ACTIVITY POINTS: Several types of activities are available to earn activity points to reinforce your learning. In calculating course grade cut-offs, 25 points has been assumed for an "A" for the course. You may earn more (up to all 33 points), with the excess functioning as "extra credit."

BEACHBOARD QUIZ ON PLAGIARISM POLICY: You can earn up to 4 points for the on-line quiz on the course plagiarism policy available on Beachboard from September 2-17.

WADSWORTH TUTORIAL QUIZZES: Ten tutorial quiz options (one or two on each unit) are listed on your reading list. These are open book quizzes and are not graded. You earn one point for taking the quizzes for one topic, getting a minimum % correct that you see on your syllabus, and having Wadsworth submit the results to jvancamp@csulb.edu. (One quiz, consisting of 30 questions on abortion and euthanasia cases is worth 2 points.) It should take no more than one hour to complete the quizzes on one unit. (See instructions on the reading list.) For access to the quizzes: go to "websites" on our class Beachboard site for direct access.

REPORTS ON FILMS: Write a report of at least 500 words on one of the films listed for that unit (see syllabus). View the entire film, paying special attention to the philosophical issues and dilemmas in that unit of the course. Write a report discussing these issues as portrayed in the film. Do not just summarize plot and characters. Reports should be submitted in word-processing files to the Beachboard Dropbox. Use either Word or Wordperfect. If you use any other word-processing program, please "save-as" in RTF (rich-text-format) so we can open your file. *All reports are submitted to Assignments Turnitin Dropbox to check for plagiarism and originality.*

DEADLINES: The deadlines on your reading list will be followed strictly. Extensions will be permitted only for University mandated absences, as for exams, and documentation will be required. If you miss a deadline, just focus on the next set of activity points. Nobody is expected to complete each and every activity point available in the semester.

WRITING REQUIREMENT: The activity point options on the syllabus include written film reports. In order to receive credit for this course, every student **must** complete at least **three** of those writing assignments. They are due at the deadlines noted on the syllabus. Late assignments will be accepted for points only if you meet the University excused absence policy. If, at the end of the course, you have not completed the three required writing assignments, those may be turned in no later than the last day of class, but you will not receive any points toward your course grade for late reports. If you have not submitted the writing by the end of the course, you will receive an Incomplete; you will then have one year to complete the writing. If not completed, the I will convert to an "F" after one year.

REGULAR ATTENDANCE is expected of all students. To encourage regular attendance, additional points will be available for the course grade total. Attendance will be taken 8 times at class beginning in the third week of the semester. Classes eligible for attendance points are indicated on your reading list with *[attendance point]. You will receive 1 point for each class you attend. Excused absences will be granted only for University mandatory policies; for illness, a physician's note will be required documenting serious illness and inability to attend class.

Attendance will be taken in a variety of ways. Sometimes a class list will be sent around for signature during class. Other times, students will be asked a simple question about the class material and submit an answer with their signature during class. (Please always have a blank piece of paper or file card with you at class.) Although it is understandable that students are sometimes a few minutes late or have a good reason for needing to leave a few minutes early, please do not expect attendance credit for a brief appearance in the classroom just to sign the attendance list. Even when the sign-in lists have been sent around, spot checks might be taken at random near the end of the class period.

Whether or not you attend class, you are responsible for the material presented in class. It is recommended that you make friends and acquaintances with others in the class to share lecture notes, as

name of another student on the attendance list, that is also cheating and will be grounds for failing the course.

State budget campus shut-downs and mandatory furloughs

State budget campus shut-downs and mandatory unpaid faculty furlough days are listed here. The entire campus will be shut-down on the **STATE BUDGET CAMPUS CLOSURE DAYS**. In addition, each faculty member is required to designate six additional unpaid furlough days, when we are not permitted to be available for class, office hours, or e-mail. These will be different for each faculty member.

- Monday, August 24: State Budget Faculty Furlough Day
- Wednesday, August 26: State Budget Faculty Furlough Day
- Tuesday, September 8: **STATE BUDGET CAMPUS CLOSURE DAY**
- Friday, October 9: **STATE BUDGET CAMPUS CLOSURE DAY**
- Monday, October 12: State Budget Faculty Furlough Day
- Monday, November 2: **STATE BUDGET CAMPUS CLOSURE DAY**
- Tuesday, November 24: State Budget Faculty Furlough Day
- Wednesday, December 9: State Budget Faculty Furlough Day
- Friday, December 18: State Budget Faculty Furlough Day

8/14/2009: subject to revision until September 2, 2009