

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

PHI 105 INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS/GE

Credit Hours: 3 Lec 3

SUN # PHI 1105

General Education Course: WI (Critical Inquiry, Writing Intensive)

H (Historical Awareness), C (Cultural Awareness), G (Global Awareness)

PREREQUISITE: ENG 101 or 107

THIS COURSE IS DESIGNATED AS WRITING INTENSIVE: Arizona Western College believes writing provides students a unique opportunity to learn disciplinary content while mastering writing skills. Writing-intensive (WI) courses at Arizona Western College integrate writing assignments in ways that help students learn both the subject matter of the courses and discipline-specific ways of thinking and writing. Writing Intensive courses help develop students' identities as good writers by linking their writing proficiency with their desire to know more about the field of study, to engage in questions in the discipline, and to become a participant in academic discourse.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Explores the nature and development of moral philosophy from the ancient Greeks to the present day. The major systems of ethics are presented and then applied in various ways to a range of contemporary moral issues and dilemmas. The course is designed to enhance students' sophistication in thinking about difficult moral and social questions.

1. COURSE GOALS

- 1.1 Explain the distinctive vocabulary, methods, virtues, and pitfalls of moral philosophy
- 1.2 Survey the major features of normative ethical systems (e.g., deontologism, utilitarianism, natural law, etc.) and the unique contributions made to them by both classical and contemporary theorists
- 1.3 Apply established moral principles to controversial and difficult moral problems (e.g., animal rights, capital punishment, sexual morality, etc.) for purposes of finding possible solutions to those problems
- 1.4 Fine-tune strategies for reading, analyzing, and evaluating complex ideas and issues contained within the literature
- 1.5 Provide tools and opportunities for critical reflection, discussion, and development of one's own views on ethical questions

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 recognize and explain conventional terminology and vocabulary used within the discipline
- 2.2 show how the study of ethics is interrelated with, yet distinct from, the broader aims of philosophical study
- 2.3 construct and defend a position on a moral issue, while also applying properly of the rules of logic and principles of moral reasoning in making the defense
- 2.4 uphold in dialogue and debate the intellectual virtues and social conditions required for the project of genuine truth-seeking
- 2.5 interpret relevant primary and secondary source texts as well as extract crucial information (e.g., main thesis, premises, assumptions, etc.) central to the claims being made in those texts
- 2.6 articulate the distinguishing features of the various systems of normative ethics (e.g., utilitarianism, divine command theory, virtue ethics, etc.) and identify the major figures, intellectual traditions, and historical contexts out of which these systems emerge
- 2.7 compare and contrast common solutions to moral problems proposed by rival moral theorists as well as evaluate the strengths and weakness of those solutions
- 2.8 generate appropriate writing discourse according to the AWC Writing Intensive Courses: General Education guidelines.

WI OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.9 Demonstrate critical inquiry through the gathering, interpretation, and evaluation of evidence in writing.
- 2.10 Develop flexible strategies for generating ideas, revising, editing, and proofreading, using instructor and peer feedback on written discourse to guide improvement through revision.
- 2.11 Effectively compose discipline-specific writing, which includes overall organization, analysis, grammar, mechanics, punctuation, and style.
- 2.12 Develop strategies for composing both in class and out of class compositions.
- 2.13 Demonstrate through written discourse a sequence of increasing complexity/skill in knowledge of content as well as discipline specific discourse form.

3. AWC GENERAL EDUCATION (GE) OUTCOMES

3.1 DIGITAL LITERACY

- Access the needed information effectively and efficiently
- Evaluate information and its sources critically
- Incorporate selected information into one's knowledge base
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- Create content in a digital environment

3.2 COMMUNICATION

- Write effectively and intelligently for a range of purposes and audiences in the English language (e.g., informing, persuading, advancing an argument, expressing, creating, etc.)
- Read a wide range of texts across the curriculum, demonstrating comprehension through written and oral summary and analysis
- Utilize proper citations, evaluate critically, and use effectively relevant information for problem-solving and presentation of ideas, issues, and arguments
- Demonstrate skill in using electronic media generally appropriate to contemporary academic and professional workplaces
- Produce scholarly or creative works that effectively employ the communication conventions and means of the major field
- Provide writing that presents a clear, specific thesis and awareness of audience
- Fully develops examples to support thesis in logical, coherent manner demonstrates original thinking, depth of analysis, and comprehension of material used and that shows high proficiency in standard English grammar, spelling, and punctuation

3.3 CIVIC DISCOURSE

- Describe historical, cultural, and political issues relevant in contemporary local, national, and global communities
- Analyze how such issues affect various local, national, and global regions, communities, and individuals

4. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 4.1 Class discussions
- 4.2 Teacher lectures
- 4.3 Multimedia
- 4.4 Handouts
- 4.5 Text analysis

5. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 5.1 Note taking

- 5.2 Classroom discussion
- 5.3 Group activities
- 5.4 Written summaries on assigned reading
- 5.5 Classroom presentations
- 5.6 Writing assignments totaling a minimum of 3000 words that include in-class essays, out of class assignments, and revisions based on instructor feedback

6. EVALUATION

- 6.1 Learning activities
- 6.2 Participation
- 6.3 Written assignments
- 6.4 Quizzes / Exams
- 6.5 At least 33% of the student's grade in the course will be based on written discourse consisting of a minimum of 3000 words or about 12 pages of revised writing

7. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 7.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 7.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 7.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor's signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC's Student Code of Conduct.
- 7.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.