

Grande Prairie Regional College
Yellowhead Region Educational Consortium
Edson/Hinton

F.99

PHILOSOPHY 1010
Introduction to Philosophy: Values and Society

First Term
Friday/Saturday

Instructor: Krzysztof Swiatek
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Philosophy 101 is a broadly based introduction to ethics and contemporary moral issues. Students will be introduced gradually to the most important ethical theories, from deontology and utilitarianism to virtue ethics, rights and social contract theories. On the basis of these theories, and parallel to their presentation, we shall discuss some of the most controversial problems of today's society. Starting from capital punishment and euthanasia, the scope of discussions will widen to cover abortion, social justice and affirmative action.

Text:

John Arthur, ed., *Morality and Moral Controversies*, fifth edition (Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall, 1999).

Evaluation:

Short Assignments (about 250 words each); best 3 out of 4	15%
Midterm Exam	15%
Essay (1500-2000 words, due November 26/27)	30%
Final Exam	40%

Term-work will not be reconsidered after the final examination has been written.

Please note the following regulation concerning student behavior:

Plagiarism: No student shall submit the words, ideas, images, or data of another person as the student's own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, research project or assignment in a course or program of study.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence which will be dealt with severely in this course.

Tentative Schedule of Readings and Assignments

September 10/11	Introduction
September 17/18	Deontology Kant, p.24

September 24/25	Kant, p.24 (continued) Utilitarianism: Mill, p.34, 323
October 1/2	Capital Punishment: Glover, p.116 Perlmutter, p.122
October 8/9	Euthanasia: Dyck, p.219 Rachels, p.223 Brandt, p.228
October 15/16	Virtue Ethics: Aristotle, p.7
October 22/23	Social Contract and Human Rights: Hobbes, p.14 Locke, p.238
October 29/30	How to write a philosophy paper Review
November 5/6	MIDTERM EXAM
November 12/13	Relativism and Human Rights: Midgley, p.85 Dworkin, p.247
November 19/20	Abortion: Thomson, p.171 Marquis, p.187 Warren, p.180
November 26/27	Justice and Economic Distribution: Nozick, p.264 Singer, p.273 Rawls, p.253
December 3/4	Affirmative Action: Rachels, pp.303, 410 Dworkin, p.395 Murray, p.403
December 10/11	Animals and the Natural Environment: Singer, p.131 Steinbock, p.141 Review
December 17/18	FINAL EXAM