

SYLLABUS PHIL 203

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Course Title: Phil 203 Ethics (8 Weeks)

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description

This class is fully online. However, proctored exams are required to be taken at a testing center or with an approved proctor.

This course is designed to introduce the student to the discipline of ethics and the philosophical questions and issues that arise from within it. It will include an historical overview of several traditional theories of ethics and approaches to ethical decision-making, an examination of the role of reason and logic in ethical analysis, and a consideration of some of the many ethical dilemmas and problems which confront our society today.

Prerequisite

None.

Textbook Information

1. Required textbook:

- Fundamentals Of Ethics Shafer-Landaul SBN 0-19-999723-3 Copyright 14 Publisher Oxf. Edition 3. Binding Paperback.
- Ethical Life Shafer-Landau ISBN 0-19-999727-6 Copyright 14 Publisher Oxf Edition 3. Binding Paperback.

2. Other Required Materials:

- Selected online readings posted in Blackboard in the “Online Readings” course menu.

Course Objectives

Upon Completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Define ethical inquiry and distinguish it from other areas of inquiry.

- Identify contemporary ethical problems and the specific issues with them.
- Explain the classical theories of ethics and ethical decision-making and apply them to contemporary problems.
- Identify and explain specific challenges to ethical inquiry and analyze the responses to them.
- Construct arguments in response to ethical questions and problems and critically analyze them.

Communication and Turnaround Time

1. Communication Types:

- Announcements will be posted by the instructor in the Announcement Page.
- Discussion Boards: Questions and answers will be posted in the discussion board forums that you will want to read. Weekly discussion questions are posted for class interaction.
 - General Question Forum: If you have a general question regarding the course policies and procedures that have not been answered in the syllabus or course orientation materials, there is a discussion board forum labeled General Questions. Your question and the instructor's response will be available there to help others who may have had the same question.
- Course Messages:
 - If you have specific, personal questions for the instructor, please send a message through Blackboard using the Course Messages link on the left.

2. Communication Turnaround Time:

You can expect all correspondence via discussion board or messaging to be responded to within 48 hours Monday through Friday. The instructor will notify the class if there will be longer periods of time where responses may be delayed.

Grades and Feedback Turnaround time

It is imperative in an online class that you are aware of your grade status in the class at all times.

Please refer to the link below to see how to check your grades and feedback:

- [How to check my grades written tutorial](#)

- [How to check my grades video tutorial](#)
- [How to check assignment grades written tutorial](#)
- [How to check assignment grades video tutorial](#)

It is imperative in an online class that you are aware of your grade status in the class at all times. Here are the expected turnaround times for each assignment type.

- Discussion forums will be graded within 2 days after the due date.
- Other paper, essay type of assessments will be graded within 10 days after the due date.

Grades

Points Grade:

1. Discussion Board Posts = 150 points (15%)
 - Unit 1 Discussion: 10 points (1%)
 - Unit 2 Discussion to Unit 8 Discussion: 20 points each Unit discussion (20 points *7=140 points; 2%*7=14%)
2. 1st paper = 100 points (10%)
3. 2nd Paper= 150 points (15%)
4. Midterm Exam= 200 points (20%)
5. 3rd paper= 200 points (20%)
6. Final Exam= 200 points (20%)

Total: 100%

Letter Grades

The grading scale is as follows:

A = 90%-100% = 900 points - 1000 points

B = 80% - 89% = 800 points - 899 points

C = 70% - 79% = 700 points – 799 points

D = 60% - 69% = 600 points -699 points

F = Below 60%= Below 600 points

Assignment Types and Grading Policy (Including Proctored Exams)

Here is information about some of the assignments in the course:

1. **Midterm:** The exact midterm date is in the course schedule. Questions will be short answer and essay questions. Like the other assignments, it is scored out of

200 points (20%) of your total grade. This will be a proctored, online test, for which you will need to make arrangements to take during the hours posted for the various testing centers. If circumstances do not allow taking the test during those hours, arrangements must be made in advance with the instructor. There are no make-up exams without a documented excuse of a severe excusing circumstance (e.g., childbirth, a medical operation, etc.)

- [Grading Rubrics for Essay Questions](#)

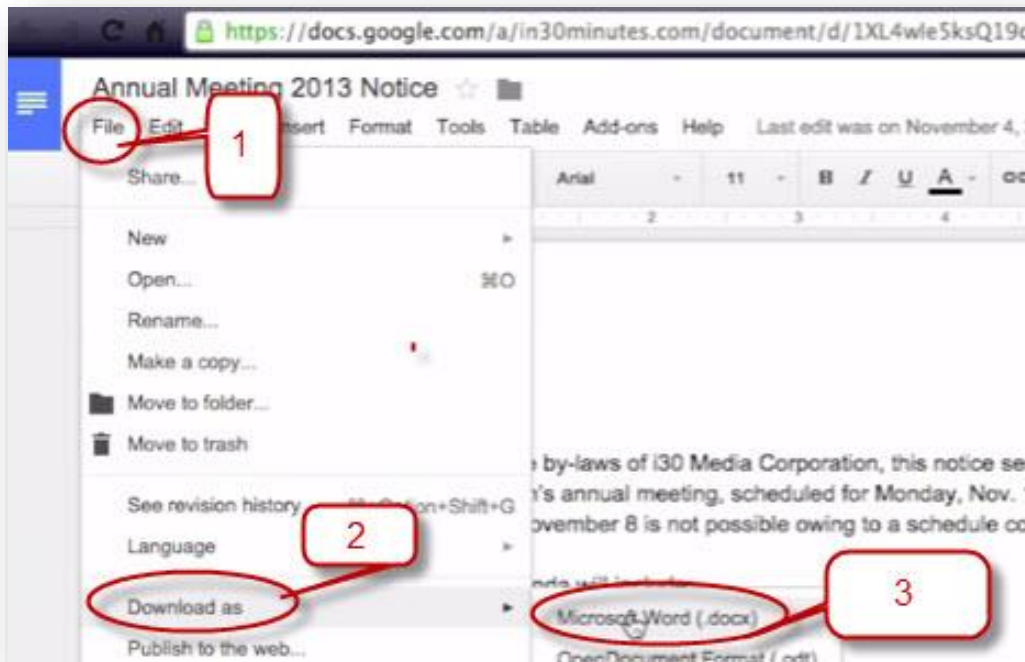
2. **Papers:** The papers are the most important tools in the class for developing your critical writing skills. These will be 2 to 3-page essays. Topics and due dates, along with details about the assignments, are on the course schedule. The first will be 100 points (10%) of your grade, and the second is 150 points (15%) and third will be 200 points (20%) of your grade. All papers are mandatory, and there are no make-up papers.

- [Grading Rubrics for Essay Questions](#)

The proliferation of ways to submit documents has caused some consternation as to what works and what doesn't for a particular course. **For this course, documents must be submitted as either .pdf, .doc or .docx files.** All others will need to be converted to one of these formats before being submitted.

To transform other files into *.pdf, *.doc or *.docx files, you can open the file again, and the click on **File > Download as (Save as)**, and the **choose pdf, doc or docx as the file format**. See a screenshot below. If there is a question, please see the check out the video link below, or contact 24/7 Blackboard Student Help listed in "Blackboard Help" course menu.

Video tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kHccpUkMeUE>



3. **Discussion Board:** I will post a question with every unit, sometimes more, on the material under consideration. You are expected to respond to all posts, either to my question, or to other student's posts. These are to be reasoned arguments, therefore, if you use "I think" or "I believe", I am expecting adequate justification for your belief. Failure to do so will result in partial credit for your post.

The first Discussion Board will be introductions, so you can know a bit about me, and I can get acquainted with you.

- [Grading rubrics for Discussion Boards](#)

4. **Final exam:** The final exam will have the same format as your midterm. It may cover some preliminary material from the first half of the semester, but most of the questions will cover the post-midterm material. It is worth 200 points, 20% of your total grade. The final exam time and date will be announced in due course. There are no make-up exams for the final exam.

Proctored Exams

MCC Online students use SmarterProctoring to sign up for a time to take a proctored exam. Students may sign up to take the exam in one of the MCC testing centers or with another approved proctor. If SmarterProctoring does not offer a pre-approved proctor in

the student's area, the student may find another proctor with the approval of the instructor. Instructions on how to use SmarterProctoring are provided within the course itself.

Please note that if you are testing at one of the MCC locations you will be required to sign up for an available time slot at that testing center before arriving at the site. Even if you are a "walk-in" you will need to access SmarterProctoring to sign up prior to being allowed to take the test.

Course Policies

1. Non-graded and Required in Blackboard

- In Blackboard, Learning Units Unit 1, there are self assessments which are required and non-graded. Students will have difficulties in exams if they do not complete these self assessments.
 - Unit 1, 3, 4, 6 have self assessments.
- Exam Study Guide: There are Midterm exam study guide and Final exam study guide.

2. Extra Credit

There is no extra credit in this course.

3. Expectations

It is expected that you will access this blackboard site at least three times per week. Daily access is encouraged.

This course has been designed to be delivered in as flexible a manner as possible, but this does not mean that you will be able to leave it alone for more than a day. This is a 3-credit-hour class taught in 8 weeks, which would meet for 6 hours a week and have approximately 12-18 hours of outside work and study. You should plan on spending about 18– 24 hours a week on this course with the online time, reading materials, and study time.

As this is an Internet course, you are expected to obtain necessary online access to a computer with the minimal requirements stated under Course Orientation. I encourage you to identify several alternatives for computer access prior to the start of class so that you will not be in limbo if you lose your primary source of access.

It is best practice to submit assignments well in advance of the due dates to eliminate any possibility of technology issues preventing you from submitting your work. We open the homework for the unit all at once to allow you to work

ahead within a unit if/when you can. The individual homework assignments will be due at regular intervals.

There are multiple dates for each proctored test. Be sure to schedule testing as early in the testing timeframe as possible.

4. Attendance Policy

Since this course is online, your “attendance” in class is based on meeting assignment deadlines. You must submit work for the class to be considered attending the class. Federal Guidelines require you to login, participate, and submit assignments to be considered attending.

MCC regulations state that an instructor may withdraw a student from class after a consecutive absence equating to 15% of the total class time, or after total absences equating to 33% of the total class time. If you fail to submit any work for one week of an 8-week course or two weeks of a 16-week course, you may be withdrawn. If you fail to turn in 33% of your work in the course, you may be withdrawn from the course. An instructor may choose to enforce a stricter attendance policy.

Simply logging in to Blackboard does not count as attendance.

For this class: Students are expected to show steady progress towards completion of the requirements of this course. Hence, students missing 2 consecutive assignments (including discussion posts) will be dropped from the course, unless you have been in communication with the instructor

5. Late Work

Due dates for assignments, exams, discussions and other work are posted on the course schedule or calendar. Late assignments will not be accepted.

6. Drop Policy

It is your responsibility to withdraw from the course if you decide to stop attending. If you choose to drop the course you must complete a drop form and submit it to the campus records office. Check myMCCCKC > Student Center for the specific dates, including the last date to drop your course without assessment (or grade posted) for the course

Before withdrawing, please contact an advisor to determine what if any impact this drop will have on your financial aid.

7. Code of Conduct

Students are required to follow the [Metropolitan Community College's Student Code of Conduct](#).

8. Student Support

If you need technical support for Blackboard, MCC student email, tutoring services, Library services, advising or counselling services, please click on the "Student Resources" tab on top of blackboard after you logged in to Blackboard.

Netiquette

Netiquette: Information on appropriate online conduct can be found in [The Core Rules of Netiquette](#). You are expected to follow these rules and any other specific rules your instructor may require for interacting in the class.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

In order to continue your eligibility for financial aid, you must make satisfactory academic progress toward your educational plan by maintaining a minimum grade point average and successfully completing a minimum number of courses throughout your enrollment at MCC, and completing your educational plan within a reasonable time. Your progress will be reviewed at the end of each semester. More information is available at [Satisfactory Academic Progress web site](#).

ADA

Metropolitan Community College (MCC) is committed to ensuring equal access to all qualified students with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you have a disability which may impact your ability to access or participate in any aspect of your online coursework, please contact the campus Disability Support Services (DSS) Coordinator or your choice. Phone numbers are listed at mcckc.edu/disability. The DSS Coordinator will work with you to determine what disability documentation/information is needed in order to provide accommodations. Accommodations are determined on an individualized basis and may take some time to put in place, so early notification to DSS is helpful. Students can identify themselves to DSS as a student with a disability and request accommodations anytime during their education. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and may vary based on the nature and requirements of the class. More information is available at mcckc.edu/disability.

- [Blackboard Accessibility Information](#)
- [Smart Proctoring Accessibility Information](#)

Academic Integrity

The Metropolitan Community College, as an academic community, expects all administrators, faculty, staff, and students to behave as responsible members of the college community and to be honest and ethical in their academic work. MCC strives to provide students with the knowledge, skills, judgment, and wisdom they need to function in society as educated adults. To falsify or fabricate the results of one's research; to present the words, ideas, data, or work of another as one's own; or to cheat on an examination corrupts the essential process of higher education and the values of the Academy.

The Metropolitan Community College expects all students to act according to the rules of academic honesty as outlined in the [Student Handbook](#). What this really means is that you are expected to turn in only your own work and that you will complete all quizzes and examinations unassisted. If you should violate this trust, then you will be treated the same as any traditional student that cheats.

Academic Dishonesty includes:

1. Plagiarism - the intentional use of the ideas or words of another as one's own in a paper or other academic assignment.
2. Cheating during examinations, whether by copying from a fellow student or by using information in the form of unauthorized aids brought to the examination.
3. The submission of work for any assignment that has been prepared by another student.
4. Submission of a single paper to fulfill requirements in two courses without prior approval of the instructors in both courses.
5. Using a false name or signing the name of another individual without proper authorization in connection with any course work.

Disciplinary action will be taken for those students suspected of academic dishonesty. At no point in this course is it acceptable for students to submit someone else's work as their own, or use the ideas of someone else as their own. It is also unacceptable for students to share their own work with another student.

Unilateral Instructor Action – If objective evidence exists indicating that a student has practiced academic dishonesty, the instructor may assign a grade of "F" on the paper, examination, or assignment or assign a grade of "F" for the course.

If the instructor feels that a more severe action is appropriate, the complaint may be referred to the division chair and the dean of instruction. The dean has the authority to recommend an action to the president, or the student may request a hearing.

Grievance

Questions or concerns about any aspect of this course should be directed to the instructor so the student and the instructor can work together to resolve any problems that may exist. In the unlikely event that the problem cannot be resolved, then the next step is for the student to make contact the MCC Online Enrollment Manager at 816 604 4487.

Metropolitan Community College is strongly committed to providing workplaces and classrooms that are free of sexual harassment. MCC will not tolerate any behavior, whether verbal or physical, which constitutes sexual harassment. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature are prohibited. To file a complaint, contact the MCC Online Enrollment Manager at 816 604 4487.