

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK**



MASTER SYLLABUS

HUMA 111 – Introduction to Moral Philosophy

Created by: Shawn Tiernan. Fall 2021

Updated by:

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT
FALL 2021

- A. **TITLE:** Introduction to Moral Philosophy
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** HUMA 111
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3 lecture hours per week.
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **GER CATEGORY:** GER 7
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall and Spring
- G. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

In this course students learn terminology, history, and formal theories of philosophic ethics. The course analyzes multiple perspectives on a global scale. Students engage and critique the works of various practitioners in the discipline. Emphasis is on understanding of theory, appreciation of historical context, and methodology for modern application.

- H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:** None

- a. Pre-requisite(s): None
- b. Co-requisite(s): None
- c. Pre- or co-requisite(s): None

- I. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

<u>Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]</u>	<u>PSLO</u>	<u>GER</u>	<u>ISLO</u>
a. <i>explain</i> the ethical theories from early to modern philosophy		GER 7	1. ISLO 4 [ER]
b. <i>critique</i> representative works of moral philosophy		GER 7	1. ISLO 4 [ER]
c. <i>argue</i> for specific interpretations of course materials		GER 7	2. ISLO 2 [CA]
d. <i>apply</i> theories to current and historical situations		GER 7	1. ISLO 4 [ER]

KEY	<u>Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]</u>
ISLO #	ISLO & Subsets
1	Communication Skills Oral [O], Written [W]
2	Critical Thinking

	<i>Critical Analysis [CA] , Inquiry & Analysis [IA] , Problem Solving [PS]</i>
3	Foundational Skills <i>Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]</i>
4	Social Responsibility <i>Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]</i>
5	Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

J. **APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT:** Yes _____ No X

K. TEXTS:

Russ Schafer-Landau, editor. *Ethical Theory: An Anthology*. 2nd Edition. Wiley Blackwell, 2012.

Cherry, Myisha. *Unmuted: Conversations on Prejudice, Oppression, and Social Justice*. Oxford University Press, 2019.

L. REFERENCES:

Anderson, Elizabeth. *Value in Ethics and Economics*. Harvard University Press, 1995.

Aristotle. *Nicomachean Ethics*. 2nd Edition. Translated by Roger Crisp. Cambridge University Press, 2014.

Confucius. *The Analects*. Translated by Annping Chin. Penguin Classics, 2014.

Dancy, Jonathan. *Ethics Without Principles*. Clarendon Press, 2006.

de Beauvoir, Simone. *The Ethics of Ambiguity*. Reissue. Open Road Media, 2018.

Dechant, Dell, Darrel J. Fasching and David M. Lantigua. *Comparative Religious Ethics: A Narrative Approach to Global Ethics*. 2nd Edition. Wiley-Blackwell, 2011.

Kant, Immanuel. *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*. 2nd Edition. Mary Gregor and Jens Timmermann, editors. Cambridge University Press, 2012.

Mills, John Stuart. *Utilitarianism*. Coventry House Publishing, 2017.

Plato. *The Republic*. 2nd Edition. Translated by Desmond Lee. Penguin Classics, 2007.

Pollock, Joycelyn. *Ethical Dilemmas and Decisions in Criminal Justice*. 10th Edition. Cengage Learning, 2018.

Singer, Peter. *Practical Ethics*. 3rd Edition. Cambridge University Press, 2011.

M. EQUIPMENT: Computer, projector, and whiteboard equipped classroom.

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

O. SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

Measurement criteria include (but not limited to):

- class participation/critical thinking activities
- essays
- quizzes/reflections
- oral presentations
- written exams
- comprehensive final exam

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

- I. Course Introduction and Methodology
 - A. Terminology

- B. Philosophic Method
- C. Logical Construction / Fallacies
- II. Virtue Ethics
 - A. Understanding the Good
 - B. Religious Doctrines
 - C. Nichomachean Ethics / The Republic
 - D. Confucianism
 - E. Justice and Society
 - F. Identity, politics, and morality
- III. Consequentialism
 - A. Utilitarianism
 - B. State Consequentialism
 - C. Ethical Egoism vs Ethical Altruism
- IV. Deontology
 - A. Kantianism
 - B. Human Rights
 - C. Divine Command / Right
- V. Moral Particularism
 - A. Contextual Morality
 - B. Moral Relativity vs. Universalism
- VI. Applied Ethics
 - A. Social Justice & Responsibility
 - B. Economic Ethics
 - C. Current Events

Q. **LABORATORY OUTLINE:** N/A