

**Philosophy 104: Ethics**  
**Instructor: Edwards**

**IVC Spring 2014**

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Office Hours: M & W 8:00-8:30 AM; Tue & Thu 12:00-1:30

**Course Description and Introduction:**

There are two main objectives for this course. The first is to introduce you to the kinds of issues addressed in the area of philosophy called Ethics and to encourage independent reflection on them. The second is to address specific questions and the answers given by historical and contemporary philosophers concerning the following questions and theories: What is Ethics? Does ethics require God? Is ethics relative or objective? Why should one be moral? What is the nature of ethical value? Utilitarianism, Kantian ethics/deontological systems, and Virtue ethics.

**Required Texts:** Lewis Vaughn. Doing Ethics: Moral Reasoning and Contemporary Issues (Second Edition), ISBN-10: **0393934284** |W. W. Norton & Company;(December 22, 2009)

**Course Requirements:**

Final grades will be determined by class participation, quizzes, a short paper, and four exams, including a final exam, as outlined below:

In-Class Exams: 30%	Final Exam: 25%	Paper: 20%	Participation: 15%	Quizzes: 10%
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Writing assignments will be due at the beginning of class. They will be graded by letters ranging from an A to an F.

There will be three exams throughout the semester, two smaller exams and a comprehensive final. Before each exam I will tell you what kinds of topics will be on the test so you can prepare accordingly. Scantrons are need, the form is 882-E.

In addition to the Paper and exams, there will be 4 **pop** quizzes, each is worth 2.5% of your final grade. There will also be a short paper (4-6 pages) assigned near the end of the semester. The specifics of the paper will be covered in class.

Finally, a significant component of your final grade will be based on your participation in class. To do well in the class, you should attend class meetings on a regular basis. Also, you can participate by raising interesting questions and comments in class.

**Plagiarism:**

We'll talk about plagiarism on the first day of class so that everyone will know what exactly it is. Plagiarism means attempting to give the reader the idea that words or ideas in an essay are your own when in fact they are someone else's. This is a serious academic offense that can get you thrown out of college. Don't take chances! If you have questions about what should be documented or cited, please ask me.

**Attendance:**

You may be absent from two classes with no consequences. If you miss more than two classes, then you must bring valid documentation (doctor's note, jury duty notice, receipt from mechanic etc.) to the next class meeting or you will be dropped from the course. **While you are in class you will be expected to turn cell phones off and not use them in any capacity.**

**Disability Statement:**

Each student at Imperial Valley College has the same rights, and privileges as any other student; this includes students with disabilities. Students in this course who have documented disability should meet with a Disabled Student Services and Programs (DSP&S) Counselor as soon as possible as well as notify me in some way. The DSP&S office is located in the Health Sciences Building, room 2117. The telephone number is 355-6312.

**Student Health Services:**

Your pre-paid session health fee entitles you to Student Health Services. Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Medical Center were selected as providers of the basic health service such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. The services also include health promotion and education programs. Walk-in and appointment services may be accessed by scheduling an appointment or walking in. Services are not available when IVC is not in session.

**To access the services offered, every student must:**

1. Bring a current IVC Identification Card
2. Bring a current copy of WebSTAR classes
3. Inform the healthcare staff you are a student at IVC.

**Mental Health Services** are provided for individual, couples, family, and group therapy to currently enrolled students. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday from approximately 9-5 pm. Provider availability may vary during those times. You may contact us at (760) 355-6196 or by visiting us in Room 2109, inside of the 2100 building. For mental health emergencies, contact the Imperial County Crisis Line at 1-800-817-5292.

**Semester Schedule**

The following is a tentative schedule of the course and may change if required. You will be expected to have read the assigned reading by the time you attend the relevant class.

Note: Reading listed on a certain day are **To Have Been Read** on that day.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	Course overview and what is Ethics?
<b>Week 1</b>	Moral Principles and Arguments
<b>Week 2</b>	Moral Relativism
<b>Week 2</b>	A Critique of Ethical Relativism and Subjectivism.
<b>Week 3</b>	Divine Command Theory
<b>Week 4</b>	Divine Command Theory Group Work
<b>Week 4</b>	Ethics Without God: Kai Nielsen
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>Test one</b>
<b>Week 5</b>	Utilitarianism
<b>Week 6</b>	John Stuart Mill: Utilitarianism.
<b>Week 7</b>	Rule vs. Act-Utilitarianism

Student Learning Outcome	Assessment Tool (e.g., exam, rubric, portfolio)	Institutional Outcome* (e.g., ISLO1, ISLO2)
<b>Example:</b> describe and critique major arguments in Metaethics, Normative Ethics and Applied Ethics.	Term Paper	ISLO1, ISLO2, ISLO4

<b>Week 7</b>	The Experience Machine. (Group Work)
<b>Week 8</b>	Immanuel Kant
<b>Week 8</b>	Kantianism Continued
<b>Week 9</b>	(Group Work)
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Test 2</b>
Week 10	Human Rights John Locke.
<b>Week 10</b>	Human Rights continued
<b>Week 11</b>	Aristotle: The Ethics of Virtue
<b>Week 11</b>	Abortion: Warren and Marquis
<b>Week 12</b>	Abortion: Warren and Marquis
<b>Week12</b>	Abortion Thomson
<b>Week 13</b>	Animal Rights
<b>Week 13</b>	Animal Rights
<b>Week 14</b>	Spring Break
<b>Week 14</b>	Spring Break
<b>Week 15</b>	Environmental Ethics
<b>Week Sixteen</b>	Review for Final Paper is Due May8th
<b>Week 17</b>	Final Exam May 13

**\*Institutional Student Learning Outcomes:** ISLO1 = communication skills; ISLO2 = critical thinking skills; ISLO3 = personal responsibility; ISLO4 = information literacy; ISLO5 = global awareness