North Central State College

MASTER SYLLABUS	2026-2027

A. Academic Division: Liberal Arts

B. Discipline: Philosophy

C. Course Number and Title: PHIL1110 Ethics

D. Assistant Dean: Laura Irmer, MFA, MA

E. Credit Hours: 3

F. Prerequisites: None

G. Last Course/Curriculum Revision Date: Fall 2023 Origin date: 11/19/2010

H. Textbook(s) Title:

Introduction to Ethics

- Authors: Ohio Open Ed Collaborative
- Copyright: 2018
- Edition: 1st
- ISBN (web version)
- OER Link: https://ohiolink.oercommons.org/courseware/33

I. Workbook(s) and/or Lab Manual: None

J. Course Description: This course involves an examination of several ethical theories, including ethical relativism, utilitarianism, virtue ethics, social contract ethics, theological ethics, and rational ethics. Subjects covered may include the ethics of nuclear war, the ethics of suicide, ethical issues in abortion, the ethics of euthanasia, sexual ethics, ethical issues in genetic engineering, racism and sexism, capital punishment, the environment and so on. This course meets the requirements for OTM Arts and Humanities TMAH and also TAG# OAH046.

K. College-Wide Learning Objectives:

College-Wide Learning Outcomes	Assessment - - How it is met & When it is met
Communication – Written	
Communication – Speech	
Intercultural Knowledge and Competence	
Critical Thinking	Critical Thinking VALUE Rubric
Information Literacy	
Quantitative Literacy	

L. Course Outcomes and Assessment Methods:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall:

Outcomes	Assessment - - How it is met & When it is met
1. Define and explain ethical relativism	Papers, participation, group work-All Term
2. Identify problems with ethical relativism	Papers, participation, group work--All Term
3. Define and explain utilitarianism	Papers, participation, group work--All Term
4. Identify problems with utilitarianism	Papers, participation, group work--All Term
5. Define and explain virtue ethics	Papers, participation, group work--All Term
6. Identify problems with virtue ethics	Papers, participation, group work--All Term
7. Define and explain social contract ethics	Papers, participation, group work--All Term
8. Identify problems with social contract ethics	Papers, participation, group work--All Term
9. Define and explain absolutist ethics	Papers, participation, group work--All Term
10. Identify problems with absolutist ethics	Papers, participation, group work--All Term
11. Apply each theory to a series of test cases	Papers, participation, group work--All Term
12. Analyze the results of applying each theory to those test cases	Papers, participation, group work--All Term

M. Recommended Course Grading Scale:

NUMERIC	GRADE	POINTS	DEFINITION
93–100	A	4.00	Superior
90–92	A-	3.67	Superior
87–89	B+	3.33	Above Average
83–86	B	3.00	Above Average
80–82	B-	2.67	Above Average
77–79	C+	2.33	Average
73–76	C	2.00	Average
70-72	C-	1.67	Average
67–69	D+	1.33	Below Average
63-66	D	1.00	Below Average
60-62	D-	0.67	Below Average
00--59	F	0.00	Failure

N. College Procedures/Policies:

North Central State College believes that every student is a valued and equal member of the community.* Every student brings different experiences to the College, and all are important in enriching academic life and developing greater understanding and appreciation of one another. Therefore, NC State College creates an inclusive culture in which students feel comfortable sharing their experiences. Discrimination and prejudice have no place on the campus, and the College takes any complaint in this regard seriously. Students encountering aspects of the instruction that result in barriers to their sense of being included and respected should contact the instructor, assistant dean, or dean without fear of reprisal.

* *Inclusive of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin (ancestry), military status (past, present or future), disability, age (40 years or older), status as a parent during pregnancy and immediately after the birth of a child, status as a parent of a young child, status as a foster parent, genetic information, or sexual orientation*

*

Important information regarding College Procedures and Policies can be found on the syllabus supplement located at
https://ncstatecollege.edu/documents/President/PoliciesProcedures/PolicyManual/Final%20PDFs/14-081b.pdf

North Central State College

SYLLABUS ADDENDUM

Academic Division: Liberal Arts **Discipline:** Philosophy

Course Coordinator:

Course Number: PHIL1110-921B **Course Title:** Ethics

Semester / Session: F a l l 2026 **Start / End Date:** 1 0 /19/2026 –12/11/2026

Instructor Information

Name: Cheryl McKinley **Phone Number:** Email

E-Mail Address: cmckinley@ncstatecollege.edu

Office Location: Online **Office Hours:** Zoom by appointment

I. Topical Timeline (Subject to Change):

Weeks	Topics	Assignments	Due Date
1	Introduction to Ethics	Discussion (Introduction) Quiz (M1 Theory) Discussion (M1 Ethics Applied)	M1 Introduction 10/22 M1 Quiz 10/25 M1 Dis. Ethics Applied 10/25
2	Ethical Relativism	Quiz (M2 Theory) Paper (M2 Theory) Discussion (M2 Ethics Applied)	All assignments are due Sunday 11/01
3	Ethical Egoism and Altruism	Quiz (M3 Theory) Discussion (M3 Theory) Discussion (M3 Ethics Applied)	All assignments are due Sunday 11/08
4	Natural Law and Human Rights	Quiz (M4 Theory) Paper (M4 Theory) Discussion (M4 Ethics Applied)	All assignments are due Sunday 11/15
5	Utilitarianism	Quiz (M5 Theory) Paper (M5 Theory) Discussion (M5 Ethics Applied)	All assignments are due Sunday, 11/22
6	Immanuel Kant and the Categorical Imperative	Quiz (M6 Theory) Paper (M6 Theory) Discussion (M6 Ethics Applied)	All assignments are due Sunday, 11/29
7	Virtue Ethics	Quiz (M7 Theory) Paper (M7 Theory) Discussion (M7 Ethics Applied)	All assignments are due Sunday, 12/6
8	Final Exam Comprehensive	Part 1 Part 2	Both parts of the final exam are due Friday, 12/11

II. Course Assignments:

Note: All assignments and discussions are to be submitted in Canvas by 11:59pm ET.
[Please post your discussions early in the week so that other students have a chance to reply to a variety of student posts.]

Module 1: Introduction to Ethics (Mon 10/19/26 – Sun 10/25/26)
Introduce Yourself Discussion and reply to two student posts-10/22
Theory: Quiz over theory section of the module.
Ethics Applied: Discussion post over applied topic (reply to two students) - Euthanasia.

Module 2: Ethical Relativism (Mon 10/26/26 – Sun 11/01/26)

Theory: Quiz over theory section of the module

Theory: Short Paper 1 Ethical Relativism

Ethics Applied: Discussion post over applied topic (reply to two students) – Human Trafficking

Module 3: Ethical Egoism and Altruism (Mon 11/02/26 – Sun 11/08/26)

Theory: Quiz over theory section of the module

Theory: Discussion over theory section of the module, ethical egoism and altruism

Ethics Applied: Discussion post over applied topic (reply to two students) – Wealth and Poverty in America

Module 4: Natural Law and Human Rights (Mon 11/09/26 – Sun 11/15/26)

Theory: Quiz over theory section of the module

Theory: Short Paper 2 Natural Law and Human Rights

Ethics Applied: Discussion post over applied topic (reply to two students) – Animal Rights

Module 5: Utilitarianism (Mon 11/16/26 – Sun 11/22/26)

Theory: Quiz over theory section of the module

Theory: Short Paper 3 Utilitarianism

Ethics Applied: Discussion post over applied topic (reply to two students) – Punishment and Prison Reform

Module 6: Immanuel Kant / Categorical Imperative (Mon 11/23/26 – Sun 11/29/26)

Theory: Quiz over theory section of the module

Theory: Short Paper 4 Immanuel Kant / Categorical Imperative

Ethics Applied: Discussion post over applied topic (reply to two students) – Environmental Ethics

Module 7: Virtue Ethics (Mon 11/30/26 – Sun 12/06/26)

Theory: Quiz over theory section of the module

Theory: Short Paper 5 Virtue Ethics

Ethics Applied: Discussion post over applied topic (reply to two students) – Select a Topic

Module 8: Comprehensive Final Exam (Fri 12/04/26 – Fri 12/11/26)

The final exam has two parts (Part 1 and Part 2).
Both parts are due before Friday, October 9th at **11:59pm.** No extensions given.

III. Grading and Testing Guidelines:

1. Discussions are worth 35%. [9 Discussions]
2. Quizzes are worth 15%. [7 Module Quizzes]
3. Short Papers are worth 30%. [5 Theory Short Papers]
4. Final Exam is worth 20%. [2-part Final Exam]
5. Total = 100%
6. Each assignment in the course is worth 100 points. Your grade is reflective of 0-100 points, and this score corresponds with the numeric distribution on the syllabus (e.g., 93-100 is an A).
7. Each assignment in Canvas will have a point value and percentage.
8. At the end of the term, Canvas will convert the points and percentages for each assignment to provide a total percentage for the course, which translates to the numerical value on the syllabus, thereby giving an overall grade for the course.

IV. Examination Policy:

1. The reasons for which a student will be excused from taking an examination (a,b,c).
   a. Hospitalization (with documented verification)
   b. Death in the immediate family (with documented verification)
   c. Personal illness or illness in immediate family - (doctor's excuse required).

2. A student who misses an examination for any reason is responsible for contacting the instructor prior to the end of the term.

V. Class Attendance and Homework Make-Up Policy:

1. Class attendance is necessary to acquire the knowledge required to engage with peers in course discussions, and to demonstrate breadth and depth knowledge of the module learning outcomes and course learning objectives as outlined in the syllabus and throughout the course.
    - Students are responsible for using material from the theory section of the module as well as the online textbook for discussions and essays.
    - Students are responsible for using APA style for all submitted assignments unless otherwise indicated.

VI. Classroom Expectations:

1. **What are the Expectations for Professionalism in Class Communications? (Inbox, Email, Discussion Posts, Chat etc.)**

2. **As a NC State Student, be it it online or hybrid, your conduct in this course is subject to the NC State Student Code of Conduct.**
3. As a future professional in your field, **you will be expected to conduct yourself as a professional in this course in ALL work and communications** - be it assignments, discussion forums, Canvas Inbox, emails etc.
4. This includes but is not limited to:
5. **Being respectful of classmates' opinions, work and comments**
   Ask yourself = Is this something I would/should say to a co-worker in person?
6. **Being respectful in communications with the instructor**
   Ask yourself = Is this something I would/should say to my boss in the workplace?
7. **Being respectful of diversity**
   Ask yourself = Is this a comment/joke that is at some other groups, ethnicity, political etc. expense?
   Note: Offensive "jokes", slurs or hate speech will NOT be tolerated
8. **Using Non-Profane, Appropriate Language**
   Ask yourself = Is this language you would use in the workplace?
9. **Using proper. NON-"Text speak" Language to make Yourself Easily Understood**
   Ask yourself = Could my work supervisor understand what I have written?
10. **Failure to conduct yourself as a professional and meet standards above in this course will result in the following consequences** in this course:
11. **1st Instance** = Written warning from the instructor documenting issue
    (No points deductions)
12. **2nd offense = Mandatory m**eeting with the instructor and or Department Chair or Division Dean
    (Related assignment/Participation subject to Point Deductions)
13. **3rd offense:** College Disciplinary procedures filed with the NC State Judicial Committee as a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.
    (Course Grade subject to F)
14. **Extreme or repeated unprofessional behavior will result in initiating college disciplinary procedures** as outlined in the NC State Student Code of Conduct. NCSC Disciplinary hearings can result in a variety of consequences, including and up to suspension or being expelled from the college.
15. Some Helpful Resources:
16. University Etiquette 101: How to Deal with Your Professors
17. Why is my Prof Annoyed with Me? -- Expectations for Classroom Presence
18. Email Etiquette for Students In general, act like a college student in order to be treated as a college student.

19. **How Much Interaction Will be Required Here?** Weekly interaction consists of participating in discussion boards with peers.

20. You will be **required to interact with your classmates** in this course as follows:
21. Discussion Texts
22. You will be **required to interact with myself as your Instructor** as follows:
23. Email me if you are contemplating dropping the class
24. Email me if an assignment may be late.
25. Email me if you are having difficulties with course materials or other related questions.

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism
Cheating is not necessary, nor will it be tolerated. I care about your success in the course and the integrity of the coursework.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) ChatGPT or other generative AI are not permitted for quizzes or the final exam. Use ChatGPT or other generative AI for brainstorming ideas or learning more about a topic but should not be used as text within any assignment. All assignments should be the student's own words. A random selection of assignments may be used to identify AI generated detection and if the detection is positive, the instructor will contact you with further instructions. AI generated detection is plagiarism, and a zero grade may be given.

Cheating will result in failure of the assignment and could possibly result in failure of the course and per college student conduct procedures, which may result in dismissal from the college.

If you are having difficulty with understanding and learning the course materials, please contact me early so that we can work together on a development plan for success.

Late Assignment Policy
Important: All assignments are due by the last day of the module week.
A 10% late penalty is applied to all late work (subject to the discretion of the instructor – student must contact the instructor).
The module week gives sufficient time to complete all assignments and activities. Engage in the course early in the week to finish the module activities and assignments by the due date.

NOTE: Technical malfunctions will not be accepted as an automatic excuse for late work. Part of success online and as a professional is to be prepared.

General Turn Around Time for Work Being Graded?
Assignments will be graded and feedback provided within seven to ten calendar days after the last day of the module week.
Review the Code of Student Conduct. and Academic Honesty.
You are expected to conform to the behavior of a university student at all times and writings. I reserve to take each case into account.