

	<p>School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT</p> <p>PHIL 204-section 1 Environmental Ethics W2007</p>
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COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ _____

Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only.
It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Karen Shirley		
(b)	Office Hours:	Monday Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 – 9:20; Tuesday and Thursday, 10:30 – 11:20		
(c)	Location:	Y320		
(d)	Phone:	370 3518	Alternative Phone:	3838164
(e)	Email:	shirleyk@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Describe and critically assess classical and new ethical theories such as ecofeminism, deep ecology, biocentric ethics, ecocentric ethics.
2. Discuss issues in applied ethics, such as vegetarianism, reproductive rights related to human population growth, moral obligations in relation to atmospheric conditions and duties to future generations.
3. Identify common errors in arguments, such as the careless use of certain terms and fallacious arguments. For example, students will be alert to arguments that depend on indefensible definitions of “alive” and narrow definitions of “ecosystem” and they will be on the lookout for the very common equivocal use of “natural” in arguments on environmental issues.

3. Required Materials

(a)	Texts	Environmental Ethics: Readings in Theory and Application, 4 th Edition
(b)	Other	

4. Course Content and Schedule

(Can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)

Jan. 9

Administration and introduction

Seminar: Bring any problems or questions. (No marks)

Jan. 11 Making strong arguments

Seminar: Bring any problems or questions. (No marks)

Traditional Ethics**Jan. 16**

Reading: What is Ethics? p. 4

Seminar: Metaethics

Jan. 18

Reading: What is Ethics? cont'd

Study Questions:

1. Assess moral relativism.
2. Assess moral objectivism.
3. Describe utilitarianism, Kantianism and virtue ethics.
4. What is the role of intentions in morality?

Seminar: Metaethics

Animal Rights**Jan. 23**

Reading: Rational Beings Alone Have Moral Worth, p. 54

5. Study Question: Given the role of emotions in Kantianism, is Kant's view that we have indirect duties to animals defensible according to Kantianism?

Debate: It is immoral to keep whales in captivity. (Do not consider endangered species or injured individuals.)

Jan. 25

Reading: A Utilitarian Defense of Animal Liberation, p. 57

6. Study Question: Is Singer correct in thinking that his position implies that vegetarianism is morally obligatory? Why?

Debate: It is immoral to keep whales in captivity. (Do not consider endangered species or injured individuals.)

Jan. 30

Reading: The Radical Egalitarian Case for Animal rights, p. 65

7. Study Question: Assess Regan's two objections to utilitarianism.

Debate: People are morally obliged to be vegetarians. (Do not consider unusual cases like that of people who cannot easily access vegetable protein.)

Feb. 1

Reading: On Being Morally Considerable, p.131

8. Study Question: TBA

Debate: People are morally obliged to be vegetarians. (Do not consider unusual cases like that of people who cannot easily access vegetable protein.)

Does Nature Have Intrinsic Value?**Feb. 6**

Reading: Naturalizing Values: Organisms and Species, p. 88

9. Study Question: Defend or condemn the view that some things have intrinsic value, in light of Ralston III's paper.

Seminar: Bring any problems or questions. (No marks)

Feb. 13

Reading: Same as last week

Study Question: Same as last week

Debate: Environmentalists should stop pushing for a DDT ban in countries where people still get malaria.

Feb. 15

Reading: Nature, p. 103

10. Study Question: What does Mill think are the two legitimate uses of "nature"? What are Mill's objections to the view that moral standards are provided by nature?

Debate: Environmentalists should stop pushing for a DDT ban in countries where people still get malaria.

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(Should be linked directly to learning outcomes.)

(a)	Assignments	Paper..20%
(b)	Quizzes	
(c)	Exams	Midterm (closed book). 25% Final (Final exam period - closed book).25%
(d)	Other (eg, Attendance, Project, Group Work)	Debate.20% Verbal participation (during the question period after the debate).10%

6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
95-100	A+		9
90-94	A		8
85-89	A-		7
80-84	B+		6
75-79	B		5
70-74	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at camosun.ca or information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.

CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.
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7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED