

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PHIL-202: Current Ethical Issues

CLASS SECTION: 001AB

TERM: Fall 2022

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face-to-Face (Online Asynchronous If Lockdown Required)

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Dr. Philip Puszczalowski

EMAIL: puszczalowski@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Lansdowne: Young 312; Interurban: LACC 118A

HOURS: Tuesday: 4:30pm – 5:20pm (Or by appointment)

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course emphasizes the serious moral issues facing us today. The views of both modern and historical thinkers in relation to these issues will be considered, but the emphasis will remain on contemporary issues.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C in ENGL 151
- C in ENGL 161
- C in ENGL 163
- C in ENGL 164

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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

1. Describe and evaluate classic and modern moral theories.
2. Describe the resolutions to moral dilemmas that are implied by classic and modern moral theories.
3. Assess various arguments for differing positions on contemporary moral issues.
4. Articulate arguments.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

(a) **Required Text:** MacKinnon, Barbara and Fiala, Andrew. *Ethics: Theory and Contemporary Issues* (9th Edition). 2018. Cengage Learning, Inc.

(b) Other necessary readings will be posted or linked on the class D2L website.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

Lectures: Tuesday: 2:30pm – 4:20pm (Y 303C)
Seminars: **Seminar A:** Thursday: 2:30pm – 3:20pm (Y 303C)
Seminar B: Thursday: 3:30pm – 4:20pm (Y 303C)

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Lecture #1 Sept 6 (Lecture) Sept 8 (Seminar)	Ethics and Ethical Reasoning L: Chapter 1: Ethics and Ethical Reasoning (p. 1-19) S: Icebreaker Activity	
Lecture #2 Sept 13 (Lecture) Sept 15 (Seminar)	Ethical Relativism & Ethical Objectivism L: Chapter 3: Ethical Relativism (p. 44-67) S: Ethical Relativism & Ethical Objectivism	
Lecture #3 Sept 20 (Lecture) Sept 22 (Seminar)	Utilitarianism and John Stuart Mill L: Chapter 5: Utilitarianism and John Stuart Mill (p. 93-112) S: Utilitarianism	
Lecture #4 Sept 27 (Lecture) Sept 29 (Seminar)	Deontological Ethics and Immanuel Kant L: Chapter 6: Deontological Ethics and Immanuel Kant (p. 114-137) S: Deontology	
Lecture #5 Oct 4 (Lecture) Oct 6 (Seminar)	Virtue Ethics L: Chapter 8: Virtue Ethics (p. 155-170) S: Virtue Ethics	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Lecture #6 Oct 11 (Lecture) Oct 13 (Seminar)	Feminist Thought and the Ethics of Care L: Chapter 9: Feminist Thought and the Ethics of Care (p. 171-198) S: Ethics of Care	
Oct 18 (Lecture) Oct 20 (Seminar)	L: MIDTERM S: How to Write a Philosophy Essay	MIDTERM (October 18th)
Lecture #7 Oct 25 (Lecture) Oct 27 (Seminar)	Euthanasia L: Chapter 10: Euthanasia (p. 199-230) S: Euthanasia	
Lecture #8 Nov 1 (Lecture) Nov 3 (Seminar)	Abortion L: Chapter 11: Abortion (p. 231-276) S: Abortion	
Lecture #9 Nov 8 (Lecture) Nov 10 (Seminar)	Economic Justice L: Chapter 14: Economic Justice (p. 344-374) S: Economic Justice	
Lecture #10 Nov 15 (Lecture) Nov 17 (Seminar)	Environmental Ethics L: Chapter 16: Environmental Ethics (p. 417-456) S: Environmental Ethics	
Lecture #11 Nov 22 (Lecture) Nov 24 (Seminar)	Animal Ethics L: Chapter 17: Animal Ethics (p. 457-489) S: Animal Ethics	
Lecture #12 Nov 29 (Lecture) Dec 1 (Seminar)	Biotechnology and Bioengineering L: Chapter 18: Biotechnology and Bioengineering (p. 490-527) S: Biotechnology and Bioengineering	
Lecture #13 Dec 6 (Lecture) Dec 8 (Seminar)	Violence and War L: Chapter 19: Violence and War (p. 528-559) S: Violence and War	

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
(a) Seminar Participation I want you to be engaged with the material and the class, so I'm rewarding you for providing me evidence that you are. This evidence can come in many forms, such as attending and participating in the seminar/class and its discussions, visiting me in office hours to discuss course material, or sending me an email with a good idea or question when one comes to you. Doing the scheduled readings are essential preparation!	10% Total 10 at 1% each Graded as Pass/Fail
(b) Essay on Current Ethical Issues - DUE: December 10th The essay will be a formal philosophy essay in which you defend a particular position. Further instructions will be included when the essay assignment is posted.	30% Total
(c) Midterm – October 18th Further instructions TBA.	30% Total
(d) Final Exam – Scheduled by the college Further instructions TBA.	30% Total
TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

(a) Missing Classes

If you miss a class due to illness or some other reason, it is not necessary to notify me, **unless** a test is missed. If classes are missed, it is the student's responsibility to find out from another student what was covered or check D2L and the course outline.

(b) Missed Tests

Make up tests will be permitted only in cases of illness or personal crisis. A make up test will not be scheduled until proper medical documentation is provided.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized

Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.