PHI 102 Introduction to Ethics
Prerequisites: None
3 Credit Hours (Lecture)

Department:

Philosophy

Course Description:

This course provides a survey of ethical theories as they apply to the quest for human happiness and “the good life.” The principles of moral reasoning and good reasoning will be considered and emphasis will be placed on the views of leading moral philosophers of the western tradition, such as Aristotle, Kant, Mill, Nietzsche, and others. The course will also focus on the applications of moral theory to practice.

Course Competencies:

The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups for this course as approved by the Kansas Board of Regents. (Kansas Regents Shared Number Course and Title: KRSN Course PHL 1020 Ethics.)

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Explain the problems involved in trying to define what the good life is.
2. Differentiate and explain the principles of moral reasoning and good reasoning.
3. Provide oral and written discussions of the ethical theories of major Western philosophers.
4. Apply ethical theory to contemporary issues and problems.

Course Content:

A. Moral Theory
B. Application of Moral Theory to Contemporary Issues
   1. Abortion
   2. Genetic Engineering, Cloning, and Stem Cell Research
   3. Euthanasia
   4. The Death Penalty
   5. Drug and Alcohol Use
   6. Sexual Intimacy and Marriage
   7. Feminism, Motherhood, and the Workplace
   8. Freedom of Speech
   9. Racial Discrimination and Global Justice
   10. War and Terrorism
   11. Animal Rights and Environmental Ethics
Learning Assessments:

Course competencies will be assessed by class participation, documented written commentaries on the reading assignments, a mid-term exam, and a final exam.

Instructional Materials:


Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students must complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” at this link: https://highlandcc.edu/pages/disability-services.

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.