

Clarendon College
Liberal Arts Division
History Department

Introduction to Ethics
2306.901/921
Spring 2024

Course Syllabus

Meeting Time: M,W,F 10:00 am – 10:55 am

Meeting Place: Admin 202

Instructor: Dr. Ken McIntosh

Office: ADMN 108

Email: ken.mcintosh@clarendoncollege.edu

I will make very effort to reply to your email message requests within 24 hours.

Office Hours: MWF 7:00 – 9:00 am; T/TH 7:30 am - 9:30 am

Course Begins: 10:00 am, Wednesday, January 22.

Course Ends: 12:00 noon, Wednesday, May 7

Course Description: Life examples designed to introduce the major moral concepts and theories in philosophy such as Cultural Relativism, Social Contract Theory, Utilitarianism, Kantian Ethics, the Feminist Ethics, and Virtue Ethics.

Statement of Purpose: This course partially satisfies the requirements for the state of Texas core curriculum requirements, and the requirements for the Associate Degree at Clarendon College.

Required Text: *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*, James Rachels and Stuart Rachels, McGraw-Hill Education, New York 9th Edition, 2019. ISBN: 978-1-260-09167-0. A Textbook will be provided for each student by the professor.

Methods of Instruction: This course centers upon class lecture, discussion, and case studies. Discussion is essential for the exchange of ideas and a greater understanding of the content. Therefore, questions will be asked in order to make a more complete learning environment. It is essential for the student to read the class assignments before the class. Assigned readings, TV shows and movies may also be a part of the instructional process.

Core Objectives: In accordance with recommendations from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, all American History courses at Clarendon College will address the following core objectives:

- Critical Thinking Skills - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- Personal Responsibility - to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making
- Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Be able to analyze decisions and actions based on a spectrum of Philosophical moral imperatives. Such analysis will be demonstrated by the completion of a weekly case study.
2. Demonstrate acceptable knowledge of the various areas of study covered in the textbook via three exams.

Grading Policies:

Grades will be calculated as follows:

Your grade for this course will come from a variety of sources:

EXAM I	100 points	20% of grade
EXAM II	100 points	20% of grade
FINAL EXAM	100 points	20% of grade
Case Study	100 points	20% of grade
Quizzes	100 points	20% of grade

TOTAL POINTS FOR THE SEMESTER = 500 PTS.

A = 500 – 450 pts

B = 449 – 400 pts

C = 399 – 350 pts

D = 349 – 300 pts

F = 299 -- 0

Attendance/Class Participation/Makeup Work:

- Attendance will be recorded each class period. Excused absences only occur by written message from a coach or from the Academic Dean.
- Case Studies are due on Mondays. Typed, double-spaced, Font 12, minimum ½ page.
- The Final Exam MUST be taken as scheduled. There is no Make-Up of the Final Exam.

Withdrawal: If you decide that you are unable to complete this course or that it will be impossible to complete the course with a passing grade, you may drop the course and receive a “W” on our transcript instead. Withdrawal from a course is a formal procedure that you must initiate. If you do not go through the formal withdrawal procedure, you will receive a grade of “F” on your transcript. A student is permitted to drop a course if he/she obtains an official drop slip from the office and has the instructor sign the slip before the 12th class week. Remember, a student is only allowed to drop the same class twice before he/she will be charged triple the tuition amount for taking the class a third time or more. Students in Texas may only drop a total of 6 courses throughout their entire undergraduate career. After the 6th course, he/she will no longer be able to withdraw from any classes.

The last day to drop a Class with a “W” this spring is Thursday, April 10.

Accommodation Statement

REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, any student who feels that he or she may need any special assistance or accommodation because of an impairment or disabling condition should contact the Associate Dean of Enrollment Services at 806-874-4837 / janean.reish@clarendoncollege.edu or visit the Clarendon campus at Clarendon College. It is the policy of Clarendon College to provide reasonable accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Associate Dean of Enrollment Services.

Nondiscrimination Policy

Clarendon College, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status. It is the policy of Clarendon College not to discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation. Harassment of a student in class, i.e., a pattern of behavior directed against a particular student with the intent of humiliating or intimidating that student will not be tolerated. The mere expression of one's ideas is not harassment and is fully protected by academic freedom, but personal harassment of individual students is not permitted.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

<http://www.clarendoncollege.edu/Resources/Student%20Services/StudentRightsResponsibilities.pdf>

Academic Integrity Policy

Clarendon College is committed to a philosophy of honesty and academic integrity. It is the responsibility of all members of the Clarendon College community to maintain academic integrity at Clarendon College by refusing to participate in or tolerate academic dishonesty. Any act of academic dishonesty will be regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense.

Academic dishonesty violations include, but are not limited to: (1) obtaining an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise by stealing or collusion; (2) discovering the content of an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment before it is given; (3) observing the work of another during an examination or providing answers to another during the course of an examination; (4) using an unauthorized source of information during an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment; (5) entering an office, classroom, laboratory, or building to obtain unfair advantage; (6) taking an examination for another person; (7) completing a classroom activity, laboratory

exercise, homework assignment, or research paper for another person; (8) altering grade records; (9) using any unauthorized form of an electronic communication device during an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise; and/or, (10) plagiarism. (Plagiarism is defined as the using, stating, offering, or reporting as one's own, an idea, expression, or production of another person's work without proper credit. This includes, but is not limited to, turning in a paper purchased or acquired from any source, written by someone other than the student claiming credit, or stolen from another student.)

Students are responsible for reporting known acts of academic dishonesty to a faculty member, the program coordinator, the associate vice president, and/or the vice president. Any student with knowledge of a violation who fails to report it shall him/herself be in violation and shall be considered to have committed an act of academic dishonesty. Additionally, any student who reports him/herself in violation of this code before it is likely that another might consider this possibility will be understood as repentant and acting in good faith.

Though the confession will not excuse the student for the violation, the confession will be considered and the violation should not result in suspension from school except in the most extreme cases.

While academic integrity and honesty are the responsibility of the individual student, each individual faculty member, teaching assistant, and/or laboratory instructor is responsible for classroom management and for maintaining ethical behavior within the classroom and/or laboratory. Faculty who discover or suspect a violation should discuss the matter with the suspected violator(s) and attempt to resolve the case at that point. In cases of convincing evidence, the faculty member should take appropriate action. The faculty member and student should complete a Counseling Sheet regarding the violation. (The Counseling Sheet should contain at a minimum the date and time of the violation, the course, the instructor's name, the student's name, an explanation of the infraction or facts of the case, and the resolution to the incident.) This form should be signed by the student, faculty member, program coordinator, and the Vice President of Instruction. The Vice President of Instruction will maintain a file on all violations. If a faculty member prefers to report the case directly to the Vice President of Instruction, it remains his/her prerogative to do so. Additionally, if the faculty member and the accused student cannot reach a resolution or if the faculty member believes that suspension from school is the only fair sanction, the case should immediately be reported by the faculty member, in writing, to the Vice President of Instruction. If the Vice President of Instruction observes any trends in student behavior which involve more than one violation or act of academic dishonesty, the Vice President of Instruction is responsible for notifying all faculty members involved, for contacting the student(s) involved, and after consultation with the faculty member(s) involved for taking the appropriate action. The Vice President of Instruction is responsible for the timely notification (normally within two weeks) to all parties of an action taken.

Students wishing to appeal a disciplinary decision involving academic integrity or acts of academic dishonesty may do so through the Vice President of Student Services.

CLASSROOM DECORUM

- 1) Turn off cell phones and beepers during class. Your phone goes off during class and you lose 5 pts; my phone goes off during class and you receive 5 extra credit points.
- 2) Grant respect to each other and to the instructor and respect shall be shown to you.
- 3) No unrelated reading/study during class.
- 4) Absolutely no form of any communication device (cell phone, PDA, laptop, carrier pigeon, or any other imaginable device) will be allowed during exams. Seeing a student using a device during the exam will result in the instructor removing the exam from the student, ask the student to leave the room and assign a grade of zero to the material.

- 5) No material other than the exam and writing utensil will be allowed on the student's desk during an exam unless approved by the instructor.
- 6) No hats, caps, or head coverings of any kind will be allowed at any time during a testing period. This includes all students, male and female. If a head covering of any kind is worn during the testing period, the student will be asked to remove the object. If the student refuses to remove the covering or cannot remove the covering and return to the class and finish the exam during the scheduled time, a grade of zero will be assigned to the material.
- 7) Please keep restroom breaks and other interruptions to a bare minimum.
- 8) Please notice the emergency evacuation map and be cognizant of what steps to take in case of emergency (fire, tornado, etc.).
- 9) No Sleeping in class. Falling asleep results in special attention from the professor.
- 10) Be on time. 1 grace tardy, then afterwards locked out of class each time.

COURSE CALENDAR

Orientation

UNIT I – What is morality? Cultural Relativism, Subjectivism, & Religion

Chapters 1, 2, 3 & 4

EXAM I February 26

UNIT II – Egoism, Social Contract Theory, Utilitarianism

Chapters 5, 6, 7, & 8

EXAM II April 2

UNIT III – Absolute Morals, Kant, Feminist Ethics, Virtue Ethics, & Rachel's Theory

Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13

EXAM III TBA

- Quizzes weekly at beginning of class on Wednesdays (start 1/29)
- Case Study Discussions due at beginning of class on Mondays (start 1/27)