

# PHIL M02H: HONORS: INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS

**Originator**

mmorgan

**College**

Moorpark College

**Discipline (CB01A)**

PHIL - Philosophy

**Course Number (CB01B)**

M02H

**Course Title (CB02)**

Honors: Introduction to Ethics

**Banner/Short Title**

Honors: Introduction to Ethics

**Credit Type**

Credit

**Start Term**

Fall 2024

**Catalog Course Description**

Introduces the systematic study of consequentialist, deontological and virtue theories as well as metaethical theories. Includes such topics as freedom and responsibility, justice, and moral relativism. Honors work challenges students to be more analytical and creative through expanded assignments, real-world applications and enrichment opportunities.

Course Credit Limitations: Credit will not be awarded for both the honors and regular versions of a course. Credit will be awarded only for the first course completed with a grade of "C" or better or "P". Moorpark College Honors Program requires a letter grade.

**Additional Catalog Notes**

Provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, provider number CEP2811 for 45 contact hours.

**Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) Code (CB03)**

1509.00 - Philosophy

**Course Credit Status (CB04)**

D (Credit - Degree Applicable)

**Course Transfer Status (CB05) (select one only)**

A (Transferable to both UC and CSU)

**Course Basic Skills Status (CB08)**

N - The Course is Not a Basic Skills Course

**SAM Priority Code (CB09)**

E - Non-Occupational

**Course Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)**

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

**Course Classification Status (CB11)**

Y - Credit Course

**Educational Assistance Class Instruction (Approved Special Class) (CB13)**

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

**Course Prior to Transfer Level (CB21)**

Y - Not Applicable

**Course Noncredit Category (CB22)**

Y - Credit Course

**Funding Agency Category (CB23)**

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

**Course Program Status (CB24)**

1 - Program Applicable

**General Education Status (CB25)**

Y - Not Applicable

**Support Course Status (CB26)**

N - Course is not a support course

**Field trips**

Will not be required

**Grading method**

(L) Letter Graded

**Does this course require an instructional materials fee?**

No

**Repeatable for Credit**

No

**Is this course part of a family?**

No

**Units and Hours**

**Carnegie Unit Override**

No

**In-Class**

**Lecture**

**Minimum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours**

52.5

**Maximum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours**

52.5

**Activity**

**Laboratory**

**Total in-Class**

**Total in-Class**

**Total Minimum Contact/In-Class Hours**

52.5

**Total Maximum Contact/In-Class Hours**

52.5

**Outside-of-Class**

**Internship/Cooperative Work Experience**

Paid

Unpaid

**Total Outside-of-Class**

**Total Outside-of-Class**

**Minimum Outside-of-Class Hours**

105

**Maximum Outside-of-Class Hours**

105

**Total Student Learning**

**Total Student Learning**

**Total Minimum Student Learning Hours**

157.5

**Total Maximum Student Learning Hours**

157.5

**Minimum Units (CB07)**

3

**Maximum Units (CB06)**

3

**Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)**

**Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | recognize and distinguish the various major moral ethical theories assumed in moral reasoning and judgment.                       |
| 2 | evaluate the relevance of meta-ethical concerns.  |
| 3 | incorporate original source material into their philosophical analysis and interpretation of traditional philosophical positions. |

**Course Objectives**

**Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | evaluate the relevance of meta-ethical concerns.  |
| 2 | recognize and distinguish the various major moral ethical theories assumed in moral reasoning and judgment. |
| 3 | evaluate the different ethical theories.  |
| 4 | assess the appropriateness of and necessity for the role of culture and religion in morality.               |
| 5 | construct and evaluate moral arguments.   |
| 6 | synthesize insights from different moral theories into a coherent moral theory of one's own.                |
| 7 | Honors: analyze and evaluate primary source materials in philosophy.  |
| 8 | Honors: create a thesis, support it with reasons, and present and reply to counterarguments.                |

**Course Content**

**Lecture/Course Content**

**10.00% Metaethics**

- Cultural relativism, ethical relativism and absolutism (Margaret Mead, Bernard Williams)
- Subjectivism
- Emotivism (C. L. Stevenson)
- The right and the good (W. D. Ross)
- Naturalist fallacy (G. E. Moore)

- Skepticism (David Hume)
- Free will, determinism, compatibilism

**20.00% Consequentialist Theories**

- Classical and modern: utilitarianism (Jeremy Bentham, J. S. Mill)
- Contemporary (R. M. Hare)

**20.00% Religion and Moral Theories**

- Divine command (Euthyphro)
- Voluntarist theories (Augustine)
- Natural law (Thomas Aquinas)

**20.00% Deontological Theories and Moral Obligation**

- Modern (Immanuel Kant)
- Contemporary (John Rawls)
- Moral obligation (Joseph Butler, T.M. Scanlon)

**10.00% Theories of Justice**

- Classical/modern (Plato, Aristotle, Thomas Hobbes, Karl Marx)
- Contemporary (John Rawls)

**20.00% Virtue/Agent - Relevant Ethics**

- Classical (Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas)
- Contemporary: (Philippa Foot, R. Hursthouse)
- Feminism modern (Simone de Beauvoir, Nel Noddings)

**Laboratory or Activity Content**

n/a

## Methods of Evaluation

**Which of these methods will students use to demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter of this course? (Check all that apply):**

Written expression

**Methods of Evaluation may include, but are not limited to, the following typical classroom assessment techniques/required assignments (check as many as are deemed appropriate):**

Essay exams  
Group projects  
Individual projects  
Objective exams  
Oral presentations  
Quizzes  
Reports/papers  
Research papers  
Skills demonstrations  
Written analyses  
Written homework  
Other (specify)  
Classroom Discussion  
Projects  
Participation  
Reports/Papers/Journals

**Other**

seminar

## Instructional Methodology

**Specify the methods of instruction that may be employed in this course**

Distance Education  
Group discussions  
Instructor-guided interpretation and analysis  
Large group activities  
Lecture  
Small group activities  
Other (specify)

**Specify other method of instruction**

debates

**Describe specific examples of the methods the instructor will use:**

Class is broken into small groups. Each group is assigned an ethical theory to represent. The whole class is then given a moral dilemma to analyze in terms of their respective ethical theory. Each group reports out to the whole class on their analysis.

Instructor leads the class into a large group philosophical discussion and debate, and provides additional lecture content on the discussion topic.

**Representative Course Assignments****Writing Assignments**

moral argument construction and analysis.

synthesis of ideas from the course into the student's own moral theory.

comparisons of deontological, consequentialist, and virtue theories.

evaluation of explicit and implicit moral arguments in sample newspaper opinion essays.

Honors: analysis of and position papers on primary source texts like, for example, the basis for Kant's argument that there is only one supreme principle of morality, the categorical imperative.

**Critical Thinking Assignments**

participate in class debate on deontological versus consequentialist moral theories.

synthesize theory of ethics into a general theory of philosophy.

compare different versions of relativism.

Honors: facilitate in-class discussions on metaethics.

**Reading Assignments**

Read Mill's [Utilitarianism](#) and be prepared to discuss Mill's concept of pleasure as it relates to his ethical theory. Mill, John Stewart, [Utilitarianism](#).

Read Book I of Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics and be prepared to discuss the nature and role of happiness as it relates to his ethical theory. Aristotle, **The Nicomachean Ethics of Aristotle**.

Honors: Read the second section of Kant's Fundamental Principles of the Metaphysics of Morals and be prepared to discuss his first formulation of the Categorical Imperative. Kant, Immanuel Fundamental Principles of the Metaphysics of Morals.

**Outside Assignments****Representative Outside Assignments**

use of electronic resources, including supplementary textbook materials.

note-taking at lectures and conferences on campus.

cooperative group planning for presentations and/or projects.

assigned writing, such as summaries, explication, critical thinking exercises, on such topics as comparing Kant and Mill's approaches to resolving complex moral dilemmas.

Honors: use primary sources to analyze different moral theories and formulate a personal moral theory of one's own.

Honors: museum, lecture and other field trips.

**Articulation****C-ID Descriptor Number**

PHIL 120

**Status**

Approved

**Equivalent Courses at 4 year institutions**

University	Course ID	Course Title	Units
UC Irvine	PHILOS 4	Introduction to Ethics	4
CSU East Bay	PHIL 211	Introduction to Ethics	3
UC Santa Barbara	PHIL 4	Introduction to Ethics	4
CSU Fullerton	PHIL 120	Intro to Ethics	3

**Comparable Courses within the VCCCD**

PHIL M02 - Introduction to Ethics  
PHIL R102 - Introduction to Ethics  
PHIL V02 - Introduction to Ethics  
PHIL R102H - Honors: Introduction to Ethics

**District General Education**

**A. Natural Sciences**

**B. Social and Behavioral Sciences**

**C. Humanities**

**C2. Humanities**

Approved

**D. Language and Rationality**

**E. Health and Physical Education/Kinesiology**

**F. Ethnic Studies/Gender Studies**

**Course is CSU transferable**

Yes

**CSU Baccalaureate List effective term:**

F2003

**CSU GE-Breadth**

**Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking**

**Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning**

**Area C: Arts and Humanities**

**C2 Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages Other than English**

Approved

**Area D: Social Sciences**

**Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development**

**Area F: Ethnic Studies**

**CSU Graduation Requirement in U.S. History, Constitution and American Ideals:**

**UC TCA**

UC TCA

Approved

**IGETC****Area 1: English Communication****Area 2A: Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning****Area 3: Arts and Humanities****Area 3B: Humanities**

Approved

**Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences****Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences****Area 6: Languages Other than English (LOTE)****Textbooks and Lab Manuals****Resource Type**

Textbook

**Description**Pojman, Louis, and James Fieser. *Ethics: Discovering Right and Wrong*. 8th ed., Wadsworth, 2016.**Resource Type**

Textbook

**Description**Rachels, James, ed. *Ethical Theory 2: Theories About How We Should Live*. Oxford UP, 1998.**Resource Type**

Textbook

**Description**Johnson, Oliver, and Andrews Reath. *Ethics: Selections from Classic and Contemporary Writers*. 11th ed., Cengage, 2011.**Resource Type**

Textbook

**Description**Pojman, Louis, and James Fieser. *Ethical Theory: Classical and Contemporary Readings*. 6th ed., Wadsworth, 2010.**Resource Type**

Textbook

**Description**Cahn, Steven, and Peter Markie, eds. *Ethics: History, Theory, and Contemporary Issues*. 7th ed., Oxford UP, 2019.**Library Resources****Assignments requiring library resources**

Research using the library's print and online resources.

**Sufficient Library Resources exist**

Yes

### Example of Assignments Requiring Library Resources

Research using the Library's print and online resources to analyze different moral theories and formulate a personal moral theory of one's own.

## Distance Education Addendum

### Definitions

#### Distance Education Modalities

Hybrid (1%–50% online)  
Hybrid (51%–99% online)  
100% online

### Faculty Certifications

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will receive training in how to satisfy the Federal and state regulations governing regular effective/substantive contact for distance education. The training will include common elements in the district-supported learning management system (LMS), online teaching methods, regular effective/substantive contact, and best practices.

Yes

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will meet with the EAC Alternate Media Specialist to ensure that the course content meets the required Federal and state accessibility standards for access by students with disabilities. Common areas for discussion include accessibility of PDF files, images, captioning of videos, Power Point presentations, math and scientific notation, and ensuring the use of style mark-up in Word documents.

Yes

### Regular Effective/Substantive Contact

#### Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Instructors may provide lesson modules that require activities such as reading course material from a mandatory textbook and participating in discussion forums or chat room topics. Instructors will provide students with feedback on the content and quality of assignments and discussion posts. provide students with an online schedule of class events using the "calendar" tool in the online course shell.
E-mail	Instructors may engage students using the following communication activities available in the online classroom: contact students via e-mail within the course shell, by campus e-mail, and/or MyVCCCD; use the "announcement" tool to remind students of important assignments and due dates.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Instructor may provide recorded instructional lectures; links to textbook and professional journals; links to online resources.
Synchronous Dialog (e.g., online chat)	Instructors may provide feedback on student graded assignments or address general student questions using the Canvas chatroom feature.
Telephone	Instructors may provide feedback on student graded assignments or address general student questions using telephone conversations.
Video Conferencing	Instructors may provide feedback on student graded assignments or address general student questions using online video conferencing like ConferZoom.

#### Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Instructors may provide lesson modules that require activities such as reading course material from a mandatory textbook and participating in discussion forums or chat room topics. Instructors will provide students with feedback on the content and quality of assignments and discussion posts. provide students with an online schedule of class events using the "calendar" tool in the online course shell.



E-mail	Instructors may engage students using the following communication activities available in the online classroom: contact students via e-mail within the course shell, by campus e-mail, and/or MyVCCCD; use the "announcement" tool to remind students of important assignments and due dates.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Instructor may provide recorded instructional lectures; links to textbook and professional journals; links to online resources.
Synchronous Dialog (e.g., online chat)	Instructors may provide feedback on student graded assignments or address general student questions using the Canvas chatroom feature.
Telephone	Instructors may provide feedback on student graded assignments or address general student questions using telephone conversations.
Video Conferencing	Instructors may provide feedback on student graded assignments or address general student questions using online video conferencing like ConferZoom.

**100% online Modality:**

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Instructors may provide lesson modules that require activities such as reading course material from a mandatory textbook and participating in discussion forums or chat room topics. Instructors will provide students with feedback on the content and quality of assignments and discussion posts. provide students with an online schedule of class events using the "calendar" tool in the online course shell.
E-mail	Instructors may engage students using the following communication activities available in the online classroom: contact students via e-mail within the course shell, by campus e-mail, and/or MyVCCCD; use the "announcement" tool to remind students of important assignments and due dates.
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Video Conferencing	Instructors may provide feedback on student graded assignments or address general student questions using online video conferencing like ConferZoom.

**Examinations**

**Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality**

On campus  
Online

**Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality**

On campus  
Online

**Primary Minimum Qualification**

PHILOSOPHY

**Review and Approval Dates**

**Department Chair**

04/17/2023

**Dean**

04/17/2023

**Technical Review**

04/20/2023

**Curriculum Committee**

5/2/2023

**DTRW-I**

MM/DD/YYYY

**Curriculum Committee**

MM/DD/YYYY

**Board**

MM/DD/YYYY

**CCCCO**

MM/DD/YYYY

**Control Number**

CCC000434098

**DOE/accreditation approval date**

MM/DD/YYYY