PHIL 2306 Introduction to Ethics and Values
Course Syllabus: May 2019

Sarah Spikeston
Office: n/a
Phone: 425-502-0421
Email: sspiker@ntcc.edu

Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	online	online	online	online	online

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Announcements for schedule changes will be announced in class, on Blackboard, or through Remind.

Course Description: Ethics and Values is a course designed to expose students to the history and the application of ethics and values, especially, but not exclusively as these relate to life in the contemporary world. The course is the study of right conduct and right thought experienced through the writing of classical and modern philosophers and through various ethical questions appearing in stories in the media.

Required Textbook(s): *No textbook. Materials will be open sourced and publicly available. Students will need a reliable internet connection or regular attendance at the library in order to stay on top of required readings.*

Publisher: none.

ISBN Number: none.

Recommended Reading(s):
Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy http://plato.stanford.edu/
The Prosblogion http://prosblogion.ektopos.com/
Talking Philosophy http://blog.talkingphilosophy.com/
Philosophy Talk http://www.philosophytalk.org/
Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews https://ndpr.nd.edu/recent-reviews/
Ask Philosophers http://www.askphilosophers.org/
Philosophy Etc. http://www.philosophyetc.net/

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Students will define, explain, and compare/contrast select important terms and philosophical concepts employed by philosophers throughout history.
2. Students will identify and describe the influence of select philosophers on their historical cultures and our contemporary culture.
3. Students will apply philosophical methods and technology to examine and propose creative solutions to contemporary social and political problems.
4. Students will practice proper critical thinking by analyzing philosophical texts and logically discussing textual interpretations.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will analyze and articulate the theoretical principles that guide moral life, applying historical principles to modern examples.
2. Students will critically evaluate the content, causes, and effects of ethically significant events, questions, and decisions, articulating courses of action accurately, thoroughly, and in-depth without indication of personal belief (unless specifically requested).
3. Students will display an air of respect and understanding for philosophically and morally complex and sometimes sensitive issues.
4. By analyzing the opposition, students will develop their own moral voice, moving beyond simple claims to well-documented, supported arguments.

Lectures & Discussions:

Lectures and/or discussions will be based on the chapters in the textbook and articles brought in by the students and posted via Blackboard.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Students will be tested on assigned readings and materials in class. All reading materials in the course are considered to be required, rather than optional. Previous arrangements must be made when it is necessary to miss a quiz/exam. In the case of an emergency where prior notification is unavailable, students must provide proof of an excused extenuating circumstance in order to make up the test.

The final grade for the class will follow a standard percent grade scale:

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = Below 60

I do not "round up" grades at the end of the semester. I provide plenty of extra credit throughout the course of the semester so that you can "round up" your own grade through academic work.

Tests/Exams:

Two exams will be given (midterm and final). A respondus lockdown browser will be used for exams.

Previous arrangements must be made when it is necessary to miss an exam. In the case of an emergency where prior notification is unavailable, students must provide proof of an excused absence in order to make up the test.

Test dates are listed in Blackboard in their dated folders.

Assignments:

All assignments have been posted to Blackboard, separated by Unit. Assignments are split into 4 Units. Assignment dates are listed in Blackboard in their dated folders.

Assignments are subject to online electronic plagiarism checkers as well as old fashioned "Google checking". Papers that attempt to cite but do so incorrectly will be given a zero and returned for resubmission. Papers that do not attempt to cite at all will receive a zero with no opportunity for resubmission. The resubmission opportunity will be noted in the grading comments on Blackboard.

Student Responsibilities/Expectations:

Since the online lecture-discussion method will be employed in this class, regular attendance is highly encouraged. Students who have not attended class by the 12th class day (or equivalent for shorter terms) will be removed from the course.

Students must log in daily. If the attendance policy is broken, the instructor will examine the reasons for the student's absences, the student's work in the class, and determine whether it is in the student's best interest to remain in the class. If the student breaks the attendance policy, the instructor may begin withdrawal procedures (up to the college's withdrawal deadline) or may fail the student for the course (after the college's withdrawal deadline has passed).

From time to time, students may be offered extra credit. These optional assignments will be announced via Blackboard. Typically, extra credit will be added to assignments grades and are weighted accordingly.

Late Work? Students are expected to complete all assignments by the due date and time stated. All assignments and exams are due by 11:59 pm on their scheduled date. No late work will be accepted for credit and no make-up work will be permitted except for medical emergencies, official college activities, or personal emergency situations. A medical emergency is defined as sickness requiring hospitalization or isolation. All medical emergencies must be verified by a doctor's note. An official college activity is any activity that the college has mandated for students. Athletes must provide a complete list of travel arrangements at the beginning of the semester. Athletes must notify me personally (not by coach email) of a conflict so they can complete the work **before** the excused absence day. Otherwise, the absence will not be excused.

A personal emergency is limited to death of a relative or unforeseeable and immediate hardship. All excuses for make-up work must be verified by the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to schedule make-up work due to a medical or personal emergency. The instructor may permit or deny make-up work.

Students are expected to **check daily** the campus email account and the course Blackboard for any course changes, announcements, and assignments. Failure to check regularly the campus email and the course Blackboard may result in missed work and academic penalties. To access the course website on Blackboard, follow these steps:

1. Log on to the NTCC My Eagle Portal at mycampus.ntcc.edu.
2. Your portal Login name is your first name initial + your last name + last 3 digits of your social security number. The Password is your date of birth in an 8 digit format mmddyyyy.
3. Under the "Launch Pad" click on the Blackboard Icon.
4. After logging in, under the My Courses list, select the link associated with this class.
5. Blackboard Mail is found on the left-hand side of the course home page.

Cell Phones:
>   *ALL CELL PHONES* ARE TO BE <u>TURNED OFF</u> UPON ENTERING THE CLASSROOM.
>   NO EXCEPTIONS. TEXTING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. VIOLATIONS MAY RESULT IN
>   YOUR PHONE BEING TAKEN BY THE INSTRUCTOR. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY THE
>   BUILDING SECRETARY WILL BRING A MESSAGE TO THE CLASSROOM. THE
>   SECRETARY'S PHONE NUMBER IS 903-434-8255.

NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:
>   Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and
>   resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for
>   addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the
>   highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty
>   policy stated in the Student Handbook.

Academic Ethics:
>   The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond
>   reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic
>   pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and
>   may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this
>   subject.

ADA Statement:
>   It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are
>   students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws,
>   regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to
>   afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request
>   accommodations. An appointment can be made with Katherine Belew, Academic
>   Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services. She can be reached at
>   903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations,
>   please refer to the NTCC website - Special Populations.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (**FERPA**):
>   The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the
>   privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an
>   applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights
>   with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he
>   or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have
>   transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain
>   information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In
>   compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to
>   the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request
>   in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or
>   local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution
>   attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and
>   participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Schedule of Activities:
>   See weekly chapter folders listed in Blackboard. Due dates are listed in the title of the folder,
>   then divided into subfolders. Students are encouraged to complete approximately one subfolder a

day in order to stay on track with the larger weekly chapter folder due dates. Shortened semesters (like May/December Intersession) may have weekly chapter folders that are slightly shorter than a week to accommodate the truncated timeframe.