



DATE ADOPTED:
DATE REVIEWED: 2002, 2007
DATE REVISED: 2002, 2008

Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education

Representing Alabama's Public Two-Year College System

Jefferson State Community College

**PHL 116
Ethics and Society**

I. PHL 206 Ethics and Society - 3 Semester Hours

II. Course Description

This course involves the study of ethical issues which confront individuals in the course of their daily lives. The focus is on the fundamental questions of right and wrong, of human rights, and of conflicting obligations. The student should be able to understand and be prepared to make decisions in life regarding ethical issues.

III. Prerequisite

None.

IV. Textbook

Rachels, James. Elements of Moral Philosophy 5th edition. McGraw Hill Publishing (2007). ISBN: 0-07-312547-4

V. Course Objectives

- A. Understand the appropriateness of ethics to the discipline of philosophy.
- B. Know the historical periods of philosophy.
- C. Have an understanding of ethical issues in personal identity.
- D. Understand the relevance of ethical issues to social justice, war and peace.
- E. Know how ethical issues relate to medical issues.
- F. Understand ethical issues involved in freedom of thought, expression and dissent.

VI. Course Outline of Topics

- A. Introduction
- B. Morality
- C. Virtue
- D. Freedom
- E. Social Justice
- F. War and Peace
- G. Medical Issues
- H. Freedom of Thought and Expression

VII. Evaluation and Assessment

Written assessments

Grades will be given based upon A = 90 – 100%, B = 80 – 89%, C = 70 – 79%, D = 60 – 69%, and F = below 60%.

VIII. General Course Competencies

- A. The student will gain an understanding of the major theoretical approaches in ethics.
- B. The student will increase his/her knowledge about selected major ethical conflicts in contemporary society.
- C. The student will further develop and refine his/her critical thinking skills.

IX. Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered. Students who are unable to attend class regularly, regardless of the reason or circumstance, should withdraw from that class before poor attendance interferes with the student's ability to achieve the objectives required in the course. Withdrawal from class can affect eligibility for federal financial aid.

X. Statement on Discrimination/Harassment

The College and the Alabama State Board of Education are committed to providing both employment and educational environments free of harassment or discrimination related to an individual's race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, or disability. Such harassment is a violation of State Board of Education policy. Any practice or behavior that constitutes harassment or discrimination will not be tolerated.

XI. Americans with Disabilities

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 state that qualified students with disabilities who meet the essential functions and academic requirements are entitled to reasonable accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to provide appropriate disability documentation to the College. The ADA Accommodations office is located in FSC 300 (205-856-7731).