

PHIL 3000-03/WMST 4500-01
Engineering 3104

Feminist Ethics
MWF 1:10 – 2:00

Fall 2009

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Office Hours: 12:30 to 2:00 Tuesday and Thursday and by appointment

Required Texts: *The Elements of Moral Philosophy* by Rachels (5th edition)
 The Right Thing to Do by Rachels (5th edition)
 Invitation to Feminist Ethics by Hilde Lindemann

Grading: Your grade will be determined by the average of three take home exams and one final paper. Each component will count for 25 % of your total course grade. Grading will occur on a straight curve (90+ = A; 80+ = B; etc.). Anything below a 60 is an F. Borderline cases will be determined by attendance and class participation.

Late Penalties: Take-home exams are due at the beginning of class. Any exam handed in more than 20 minutes late will have 10 points subtracted as a late penalty. An additional 10 points will be subtracted for each additional 24 hour periods for which the assignment continues to be late. The final paper is due at 1:15 pm on Friday, December 11th. You are to hand the final paper into me at my office or via e-mail. You are encouraged to submit the final paper electronically. Do not assume that I have received your paper until you receive a confirmation e-mail from me. The final paper will **not** be accepted late. Failure to hand in the final paper will result in an F for the entire course.

Be aware that this syllabus is intended as a guideline. It is not a contract. The reading schedule, due dates, and other factors, may change. While I do not plan to make any changes, I reserve the right to do so. All changes will be announced in class. It is the responsibility of the student to be in class and to be aware of all announced changes.

Failing to give a citation for all work which is not your own: Plagiarism occurs when you present the words or ideas of someone other than yourself as if those ideas were your own, even if the other person gives you permission to do so. You must acknowledge the source of any ideas presented in the paper if the source is other than yourself. This applies to published articles or texts, Internet material, and even ideas you get through class discussion or conversation with other people. It is okay to use these ideas so long as you give credit for them **and** so long as your own work **builds upon** these ideas in order to present your own original ideas. See Unireg 802 for full information about the consequences of academic dishonesty.

DUE DATES:

Take Home Exam #1 Due on Monday, September 21st

Take Home Exam #2 Due on Monday, October 12th

Take Home Exam #3 Due on Monday November 9th

Final Paper Due on Friday, December 11th by 1:15 pm

Reading Schedule

Elements of Moral Philosophy (**EMP**)

The Right Things to Do (**RTD**)

Invitation to Feminist Ethics (**IFE**)

8/24 – 8/28 EMP One: What is Morality?
 RTD One: Short Introduction
 Two: Basic Points about Arguments

8/31 – 9/4 EMP Two: Cultural Relativism
 Three: Subjectivism in Ethics
 RTD Six: Subjectivity of Values by Mackie

9/7 – 9/11 EMP Four: Does Morality Depend on Religion?
 EMP Five: Ethical Egoism
 RTD Nine: Master/Slave Morality by Nietzsche

Take Home Exam #1 handed out on Friday, September 11th

9/14 – 9/18 EMP Six: The Utilitarian Approach
 Seven: The Debate over Utilitarianism
 RTD: Three: Utilitarianism by John Stuart Mill
 Four: Utilitarianism and Integrity by Williams
 Five: The Experience Machine by Nozick

Take Home Exam #1 is due on Monday, September 21st

9/21 – 9/25 EMP Eight: Are There Absolute Moral Rules?
 Nine: Kant and Respect for Persons
 RTD Seven: The Categorical Imperative by Kant

9/28 – 10/2 EMP Ten: The Idea of a Social Contract
 EMP Twelve: The Ethics of Virtue
 RTD Eight: The Virtues by Aristotle

Take Home Exam #2 handed out on Friday, October 2nd

10/5 – 10/9 IFE One: What is Feminist Ethics?
 Two: Discrimination and Oppression

Take Home Exam #2 is due on Monday, October 12th

10/12 – 10/16 IFE Three: The Importance of Who We Are
 Four: Moral Theories from a Feminist Perspective

10/19 – 10/23 IFE Five: Feminist Ethics of Care and Responsibility
 EMP Eleven: Feminism and the Ethics of Care

10/26 – 10/30 RTD Ten: Caring Relations and Principles of Justice by Held
 EMP Thirteen: A Satisfactory Moral Theory

Take Home Exam #3 handed out on Friday, October 30th

11/2 – 11/6 IFE Six: Feminist Bioethics
 RTD Eleven: Abortion by Marquis
 Twelve: Abortion by Thomson
 Thirty-six: The New Eugenics by Ridley

Take Home Exam #3 is due on Monday, November 9th

11/9 – 11/13	RTD:	Twenty-seven: Homosexuality by Leiser Twenty-eight: Monogamy by McMurtry Twenty-nine: Our Sexual Ethics by Russell Thirty: Alcohol and Rape by Dixon
11/16 – 11/20	IFE RTD	Seven: Violence Twenty-three: Ethics of War and Peace by Lackey
11/23 and 11/30 – 12/4	IFE RTD	Eight: Globalization and Cross-Cultural Judgments Fourteen: 9/11 and Starvation by Engel Fifteen: Solution to World Poverty by Singer

Final Paper Due on Friday, December 11th by 1:15 pm