Course Description:
This course provides a practical, community-minded introduction to questions of character and human excellence in a multi-cultural, global environment. Traditional and contemporary views concerning the nature of goodness, happiness, duty, and freedom serve as points of departure for this largely thematic inquiry into right conduct and ways of thinking that leads to that conduct. This course stresses the HCC CORE Objectives of Critical Thinking, Communication, Social Responsibility, and Personal Responsibility.

PREREQUISITE(S):
• ENGL 1302

Course Goals:
Particular emphasis is placed on the scope and problems of sound reasoning and decision-making and may include correlative inquiries into current social, workforce, and professional moral issues.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Recall and Identify the major thinkers, schools, core philosophical questions, terms and concepts found in the history of ethics cross-culturally construed, from ancient times to the contemporary world.

2. Interpret and Explain core ethical questions and concepts in terms that illustrate a comprehensive understanding of each.

3. Apply core ethical questions and concepts to contemporary issues and personal experience.
4. **Compare** and **Contrast** related core ethical questions and concepts, and the correlative thinkers and schools with which they are commonly associated, and with professional codes.

5. **Justify** a sound philosophical position on a topic, or topics of contemporary human interest in the area of ethics, including its relation to freedom and human rights, that Integrates and Logically Demonstrates a Synthesis in thought.

**Learning Objectives:**

1. **1. Acquire** a broad familiarity with the names of major thinkers, the schools they represent, geographical location, and historical periods.

2. **1.2 Learn** historically significant questions of ethics, definitions of special terms, and concepts of ethics and ethical decision-making.

3. **2.1 Cultivate** reading comprehension of writings specific to ethics and cultivation of character.

4. **2.2 Distinguish** various approaches to ethics, including conceptual analysis and practical bases for ethical decision-making.

5. **3.1 Articulate** the relevance of ethics and questioning about ethics to everyday life.

6. **3.2 Consider** how ethics may or may not apply to differing ways of thinking and cultural influences.

7. **4.1 Inventory, Summarize,** and **Assess** correlative questions, concepts, and schools of thought found in the history of ethics, both personal and professional.

8. **5.1 Create and cultivate** alternative ethical positions on presented course content.

9. **5.2 Develop coherent arguments** for chosen positions, bringing to bear the rules of logic, written expression and disciplined thinking.

10. **5.3 Critique** chosen positions and adequately **Defend** against possible objections, both theoretical and applied.

**Notice About Online Learning Management Software:**

This is a *web-enhanced* lecture course that uses *Eagle Online 2*. The *Eagle Online* login page is:

https://eo2.hccs.edu/login/index.php
Your Eagle Online username is the same as your HCC Eagle ID (or User ID) which is used for Online Registration (for example: W0034567). Your password is the same password you use to log in to PeopleSoft, HCC Webmail, and Active Directory (computer terminal login). For any questions about your Eagle ID or password, please go check online here.

IMPORTANT: Eagle Online works best with the latest version of Mozilla Firefox. Download it free, here. (Please check your Operating System to see if you have Firefox in your applications.)

Adopted Texts [Selected by Instructor from the following]:

Instructors may select any texts from the following list, provided they include at least one reading from each of the classical, modern, and contemporary periods.


Sample Course Calendar:

- Week 1: Introduction
- Week 2: Basic logical principles
- Week 3: Moral Dilemmas
- Week 4: Metaethics: relativism, realism, Divine Command Theory
- Week 5: Virtue Ethics: Classical views
- Week 6: Virtue Ethics: Contemporary views
- Week 7: Problems and Applications of Virtue Ethics
- Week 8: Kantianism
- Week 9: Kantianism and deontology
Week 10: Problems and Applications of Kantianism
Week 11: Utilitarianism: Classical views
Week 12: Utilitarianism: Contemporary views
Week 13: Problems and Applications of Utilitarianism
Week 14: Additional ethical theories
Week 15: Additional problems and applications
Week 16: Final Exams

Grading Components and Weights [Selected by Instructor]:

Assessment:

Choices of:

1. Daily Quizzes, or
   Exams: Multiple Choice, True-False/Matching/Fill-in, or
   Short Answer Essays to Questions of Fact, or Oral Exams on same questions.

2. Journal Summaries, or
   Blogs, or
   Assigned Public Discussion Topics, or
   Interpretive Essays. All choices to be evaluated with SLO-specific standard form rubric.

3. Journal Summaries, or
   Blogs, or
   Assigned Public Discussion Topics, or
   Interpretive Essays. All choices to be evaluated with SLO-specific standard form rubric.

4. Short Answer Essays or assigned Project evaluated with SLO-specific standard form rubric.


Grading Policy [Example]:

All grades will be calculated according to a percentage of total points. The total number of points for this term is 900. The term grade legend follows:

A = 90% to 100% (810 to 900 points) 4 points per semester hour
B = 80% to 89.9% (720 to 809 points) 3 points per semester hour
C = 70% to 79.9% (630 to 719 points) 2 points per semester hour
D = 60% to 69.9% (540 to 629 points) 1 point per semester hour
F = 0% to 59.9% (000 to 539 points) 0 points per semester hour
FX (Failure due to non-attendance) 0 points per semester hour
IP (In Progress) 0 points per semester hour
W (Withdrawn) 0 points per semester hour
I (Incomplete) 0 points per semester hour
AUD (Audit) 0 points per semester hour

IP (In Progress) is given only in certain developmental courses. The student must re-enroll to receive credit. COM (Completed) is given in non-credit and continuing education courses.

FINAL GRADE OF FX: Students who stop attending class and do not withdraw themselves prior to the withdrawal deadline may either be dropped by their professor for excessive absences or be assigned the final grade of "FX" at the end of the semester. Students who stop attending classes will receive a grade of "FX", compared to an earned grade of "F" which is due to poor performance. Logging into a DE course without active participation is seen as non-attending. Please note that HCC will not disperse financial aid funding for students who have never attended class.

Students who receive financial aid but fail to attend class will be reported to the Department of Education and may have to pay back their aid. A grade of "FX" is treated exactly the same as a grade of "F" in terms of GPA, probation, suspension, and satisfactory academic progress.

To compute grade point average (GPA), divide the total grade points by the total number of semester hours attempted. The grades "IP," "COM" and "I" do not affect GPA.

Late policy:
[Instructor’s discretion]

!! Philosophy Tutoring is available at http://hccs.askonline.net/ Please use it if you need it !!

Academic Honesty:
[Insert Instructor’s statement]

Make-up Policy:
[Instructor’s discretion]

Attendance and Withdrawal Policy:
HCC Students are expected to attend class regularly. A daily record of absences will be maintained throughout the semester. NOTE: It is the responsibility of the student to drop, or officially withdraw from this course. Your instructor will withdraw a student if and only if provided a written request from that student. Additionally, system-wide rules affect withdrawals:
Students who repeat a course for a third, or more times, may face a significant tuition/fee increase at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities.

The Texas Legislature passed a law limiting new students (those starting college in Fall 2007) to no more than six total course withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. There may be future penalties imposed.

No student may withdraw from a course following the set "last date to withdraw", which for XXXXX 20XX on XXXXXXX, XXXXXXX XX at X:XX XX. After that date and time, a student can only be given a grade earned, or an "I" for incomplete. Incompletes must be made up by the end of the following long semester, after which they will automatically change to a grade of "F". Students receiving an “I” for a course are ineligible for graduation until the "I’ has been removed from a student’s transcript.

Students with Disabilities:

The HCC Accessibility website is located at the following url: http://www.hcctexas.edu/district/departments/accessibility/. You will find information about the types of assistance offered to students with special instructional needs on that web page. You will also find contact information for your college’s ADA compliance and accessibility office.

For questions, please contact Donna Price at 713.718.5165 or the ADA counselor at your college campus. You can find a list of counselors here.

EGLS3 – Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System:

At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time near the end of the term, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research-based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be made available to your professors and department chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term.