

PHIL 240

Introduction to Ethics

3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County Common Course Outline

Description

PHIL 240 - Introduction to Ethics: teaches the use and discovery by rational methods, theories and concepts that aid in determining the truth about right and wrong, good and bad, morality and immorality. Introduction to Ethics explores, through critical analyses and examination, existing ethical systems by examining values and their applications to everyday phenomena. Ethics improves a student's ability to understand ethical reasoning and induces critical reflection and analyses to build a foundation for making ethical decisions and choices.

Prerequisites: (ESOL 052 AND 054) or ACLT 052 or ACLT 053

Co-requisite: MATH 081

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. evaluate how critical analysis is central to the study and application of ethics across cultures and traditions;
2. explain ways in which ethics is a dynamic subject which is responsive to new discoveries in related fields from a historical, social, cultural, and political context;
3. analyze core ideas and famous ethicists from the character, teleological, and deontological ethics traditions;
4. explain the importance and relevance of distinguishing between unsupported opinions and justified ethical claims;
5. analyze the diverse conceptions of human nature that are implied by different ethical theories;
6. apply technology to research ethical thought and issues;
7. find, evaluate, use and cite appropriate academic resources;
8. describe dominant and minor divisions within the discipline of Ethics;
9. analyze ethical arguments;
10. create an ethical argument or position; and
11. defend an ethical argument or position.

Major Topics

- I. Ethics
- II. Critical Thinking on Ethical Issues
- III. Character and Virtue Ethics
- IV. Teleological (consequences-oriented) Ethics

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.
For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

- V. Deontological (duty-oriented) Ethics
- VI. Selected Applications of Ethical Theory (e.g., medical, moral, political, social phenomena)
- VII. Research and Academic Writing on an Ethical Topic

Course Requirements

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- 2 exams
- 4 quizzes
- 1 research paper of 750 words (Common Graded Assignment)

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor.

Other Course Information

This course is an approved 3–credit General Education course in the Arts and Humanities. One or more assignments will infuse CCBC General Education Program outcomes and will account for a minimum of 10% of the total course grade. The assignment(s) will allow students to demonstrate at least 5 of the 7 General Education program outcomes.

Students are required to comply with the CCBC Student Code of Ethics in managing classroom interactions with faculty and co-learners.

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