

## **PHILOSOPHY 208 5: APPLIED ETHICS**

This course will examine a range of issues in applied ethics, including healthcare allocation, paternalism in public policy, eating animals, and killing in war, as a means through which to give students skills to deal with issues in applied ethics, more generally.

### **Lecturer:**

RJ Leland

[rj.leland@anu.edu.au](mailto:rj.leland@anu.edu.au)

Coombs Building 9, Room #3206

Office Hours: Monday 1015-11:15, or by appointment

### **Tutor**

Ten-Herng Lai

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Coombs Building 9, Room #3218

Office Hours: Tuesday 230-330, or by appointment

### **Course Website**

We will use Wattle for everything connected with the course. Reading relating to tutorials and lectures will be posted there (you will need to go beyond this, for written work for the course). All written work should be submitted JUST by submitting it on wattle (i.e. no paper essays); marked work will be returned to you via wattle, which should link your ANU e-mail address (all communication relating to the course will also be sent via this address: if you use another e-mail address, make sure that your ANU e-mail address is linked to it: the technical people in the Chifley Library can assist with this).

### **Mode of Delivery and Workload**

The course consists of 12 two hour lectures with 12 one hour tutorials. Students should undertake an average of seven hours private study or preparation for assessment each week (for a total workload of 130 hours over the semester).

## Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, student will be able to:

1. Describe the main features of a few theories of ethics.
2. Discuss verbally the views of yourself and others on issues in applied ethics.
3. Provide a coherent written argument for a specific position on two issues in applied ethics.
4. Understand philosophical texts and draw out the main arguments.
5. Properly structure and reference academic essays.

## Assessment Details

One 500 word short piece of work (10% [learning outcome 1])

Two 2,000 word essays (40% each) [learning outcomes 2-5]

Tutorial participation (10%) [learning outcomes 2-4]

All work to be submitted on wattle.

*Late Policy:* Assignments submitted late will receive a penalty of 5% per working day.

*Turnitin:* The ANU uses Turnitin to enhance student citation and referencing techniques, and to assess assignment submissions as a component of the University's approach to managing Academic Integrity. While the use of Turnitin is not mandatory, the ANU highly recommends Turnitin is used by both teaching staff and students. For additional information regarding Turnitin please visit the ANU Online website.

## Requisite and Incompatibility

To enrol in this course you must have completed 6 Units of Philosophy (PHIL) Courses, or by permission of course convenor.

**Course Schedule** (All readings are available online or will be provided on wattle.)

Date	Topic	Readings & Assignments
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February 16	Introduction, Sex and Consent	Tom Dougherty "Sex, Lies, Consent"
February 23	Surrogacy	Elizabeth Anderson "Is Women's Labor A Commodity?"  Michael Sandel <i>What Money Can't Buy</i> (Tanner Lectures) pp. 94-103  Richard Posner "The Ethics and Economics of Enforcing Contracts of Surrogate Motherhood," pp. 21-27
March 2	Healthcare Allocation	Govind Persad, Alan Wertheimer, and Ezekiel Emmanuel "Principles for the Allocation of Scarce Medical Resources"  Samuel Kerstein and Greg Bognar "Complete Lives in the Balance"
March 9 <b>Canberra Day</b>	<b>No Class</b>	<b>No Readings</b>  <b>Short Assignment Due Friday, March 13 (submit on Wattle)</b>
March 16	Disability	Elizabeth Barnes "Disability, Minority, and Difference"  Bonnie Tucker "Deaf Culture, Cochlear Implants, and Elective Disability"

March 23	Paternalism and Public Policy	<p>Excerpts from John Stuart Mill <i>On Liberty</i></p> <p>Richard Thaler and Cass Sunstein “Libertarian Paternalism”</p> <p>Sarah Conly “Coercive Paternalism in Health Care: Against Freedom of Choice”</p>
March 30	Animal Ethics	<p>Peter Singer “All Animals are Equal”</p> <p>Tom Regan “Animal Rights, Human Wrongs”</p>
April 6-17 <b>Teaching Break</b>	<b>No Class</b>	<p><b>No Readings</b></p> <p><b>First Paper Due Friday, April 17 (submit on wattle)</b></p>
April 20	Immigration	<p>Chandran Kukathas “The Case for Open Immigration”</p> <p>David Miller “Immigration: the Case for Limits”</p>
April 27	Affirmative Action	<p>Albert Mosley “A Defense of Affirmative Action”</p> <p>Celia Wolf-Devine “Affirmative Action Policies Have Become Toxic”</p>

May 4	Ethics of War	<p>Seth Lazar — Encyclopedia article on “War”</p> <p>Jeff McMahan “The Ethics of Killing in War”</p> <p>Seth Lazar — “The Responsibility Dilemma for Killing in War”</p>
May 11	Global Poverty and Moral Demandingness	<p>Peter Singer - “Famine, Affluence, and Morality”</p> <p>Garrett Cullity - “Asking Too Much”</p>
May 18	Whistleblowing	Candice Delmas “The Ethics of Government Whistleblowing”
May 25	Ethics, Chaos, and Climate Change	<p>Excerpts from John Broome, <i>Climate Matters: Ethics in a Warming World</i></p> <p>Excerpts from Derek Parfit, <i>Reasons and Persons</i></p> <p><b>Final Paper Due Friday, June 5 (submit on wattle)</b></p>

### Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

<http://academichonesty.anu.edu.au/index.html>

Academic misconduct can seriously jeopardize your academic career, your future, and, if you are an international student, your ability to stay in Australia to study. It is the responsibility of each individual student to ensure that:

- they are familiar with the expectations for academic honesty both in general, and in the specific context of particular disciplines or courses

- work submitted for assessment is genuine and original
- appropriate acknowledgement and citation is given to the work of others

they do not knowingly assist other students in academically dishonest practice. When in doubt about anything, ASK...and.... ask EARLY - don't leave it until the assignment due date. Your lecturers, tutors and College administration staff are here to help you.

It is the responsibility of everyone at the ANU to uphold and promote fundamental principles of quality and integrity in scholarly work.

### **Academic Skills and Learning Centre**

<https://academicskills.anu.edu.au/>

The Academic Skills and Learning Centre (ASLC) offers ANU students free and confidential help with their academic work through individual consultations, workshops, courses, podcasts and handouts. Our aim is to assist students to develop the academic, critical thinking and communication strategies that are foundational to all scholarly activity. For ANU students, the ASLC offers:

- individual consultations
- workshops/courses
- online and print materials and publications
- the Language Exchange Program
- podcasts
- the Essay and Report Writing File

The ASLC is located on the lower ground floor of the Pauline Griffin Building and is only closed on weekends and public holidays.

### **Appeals Procedure**

<http://cass.anu.edu.au/current-students/rules-and-policies/appeals>

If you genuinely believe you have received an inappropriate or incorrect result, there are steps you can take to have that result reviewed. This must be done within 30 working days of the formal notification of results. Your first point of contact should always be your tutor or the course convenor.