Instructor Information

Instructor: Nicolette Smith
Office: CHARTS 429
Mailbox: CHARTS 4th Floor Workroom
Hours: MW 9:30 – 10:30 and T-Th 11:00 – 12:30
Phone: Office: 501-812-2261 Cell: 501-553-4091 (text only)
Email: Nsmith1@uaptc.edu

*All emails and telephone calls will receive a response within two business days. Please note that if you are unable to see me during office hours we can schedule a time that works better with your schedule.

Chair: Barry McVinney 501-812-2383 bmcvinney@uaptc.edu
Dean: Christy Oberste 501-812-2869 coberste@uaptc.edu

*If your emails and telephone calls do not receive a response within two business days, the appropriate chain of command is above.

Course Information

PHIL 2330 meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays in CHARTS 301 from 9:25 – 10:40

Catalog Description
3 Credit Hours (3 hours lecture per week)
This course is a survey of the fundamental issues in the history of philosophical ethics with an emphasis on the relevance of these issues to contemporary moral topics. The course includes discussions of the correct standards of rights and wrong, abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment and animal rights.

PREREQUISITE: Students enrolled in PHIL 1310 must meet one of the following requirements:

- Completion of READ 0300 (Foundations of Literacy) with a grade of “C” or better.
- A score of 19 or above on the Reading section of the ACT
- A score of 83 or above on the COMPASS Reading Placement
- A score of 78 or above on the Accuplacer Reading Comprehension Placement Test

Course Materials

All materials (including the text) are available from the instructor.

Mission Statement

University of Arkansas – Pulaski Technical College provides access to high-quality education that promotes student learning and enables individuals to develop to their fullest potential.
Institutional Learning Outcomes and General Education

UA-P TC supports a college-wide institutional learning assessment program which concerns effective instructional methods and promotes student learning achievement by assessing:

1. Communication
2. Critical Thinking
3. Cultural Awareness
4. Information Literacy
5. Professionalism
6. Quantitative Literacy
7. Technology Literacy

For more information, please consult the following website: https://uaptc.edu/sla

Department / Program Learning Outcomes

The Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Studies department, consistent with the College’s mission and the Division’s objectives, encourages the success of its students in all technical fields and academic disciplines by promoting:

1. Critical and creative thought
2. Effective argumentation with a focus on tone, purpose and audience.
3. Academic Integrity
4. Independent thinking and learning
5. Written communication on a collegiate level
6. Exposure to various cultures and subcultures
7. The influence of culture on individuals and their work
8. Collaborative study and writing

Student Learning / Course Outcomes

The student will:

- Develop an appreciation of various ethical theories.
- Demonstrate critical inquiry into contemporary societal issues that pertain to ethics.
- Demonstrate a familiarity with the crucial concepts relevant to a philosophical analysis of morality and values.
- Develop an appreciation for the importance of cultural context when analyzing various philosophical works from different times and different cultures in both western and non-western traditions.
- Analyze a text from a variety of perspectives while comparing and contrasting that text with others in order to produce conclusions about them.
- Develop and write a well written essay, using secondary sources, that illustrates the critical evaluation of a particular argument.
- Analyze various ethical theories and compare these perspectives with their own.
- Develop an understanding of various societal constraints such as religion, law, and etiquette, as they relate to the development of ethics.
Policies

Report a Complaint or Concern

UA-PTC takes very seriously complaints and concerns regarding the institution. Most complaints or concerns of a specific nature should be initiated and resolved at the campus level through normal college processes whenever possible. UA - Pulaski Technical College receives and resolves complaints using a variety of methods. To report a complaint or concern, please follow the link below.

https://www.uaptc.edu/report-a-concern-complaint

UA-PTC Attendance Policy

Education at UA-PTC requires students’ active involvement in the learning process. Thus, students are expected to attend all classes and actively engage in all learning assignments and/or opportunities provided in their classes. Class attendance should be treated as mandatory by all students as attendance will be taken by all instructors during the first two weeks of class. Additionally, a written policy on student attendance that is tied to course objectives and included in a course syllabus will be provided for each course by instructors.

Departmental Attendance Policy

Students who miss more than six days in a MWF class or more than four days in a class may be dropped a letter grade for each subsequent absence.

Course Policies

The UA-PTC Catalog rules and regulations will be enforced in this course at all times. Please consult the following website for more information: https://www.uaptc.edu/catalog

Professional behavior is required. Punctual attendance and intelligent participation are expected. Particulars as determined by the instructor are detailed in the paragraph below.

Appropriate behavior is expected for all communications, including any notes, email messages, or telephone conversations. Some guidelines for communication are included in this syllabus to help you.

If you need to discuss a topic unrelated to the class please step outside to do so. Having private conversations with your peers or talking/texting on your cell phone while in the class will not be tolerated.

In this course we will discuss topics that you and others may feel strongly about. It is your job to be mindful of what you say to others and always treat everyone in the class with dignity and respect even if their opinion differs from yours.

Grading Policy

Letter grades will be based on the following scale:
Exams: There will be two essay-type examinations worth 250 possible points each. Study questions for each exam will be distributed approximately one week prior to each examination. Each student must take his or her exam at the appropriate time for the section in which he or she is enrolled.

Make-up examinations will be given only under extreme circumstances. The testing procedure for make-up examinations will be modified to account for the additional study and preparation time available to those students who are unable to take an examination at the regularly scheduled time.

Review: Students will write one review of an ethical theory of their choosing. This assignment is worth 100 points. This should be two pages in length. MLA format should be followed and grammatical errors kept to a minimum.

Case Study Rough Draft: Students will write a rough draft of their final Case Study to be peer reviewed and reviewed by their instructor. This assignment is worth 100 points.

Group Case Analysis: Students will complete one group analysis of a particular case in which they must defend their findings with those in their group and, once a consensus has been made, share the groups findings with the rest of the class.

Case Study Essay: Students will write one essay worth 200 points covering a contemporary ethical case discussed in class. Students will also write one rough draft of their essay worth 100 points due a week prior to the final essay. Explain the case and respond with two ways to tackle the issue (two ethical theories).

MLA format should be followed and grammatical errors kept to a minimum. The essay should be 3 to 5 pages in length and in 12 point Times New Roman font. Exact page length should be discussed with your instructor and determined based on the case in question.

Academic Integrity
It is expected that all students who attend UA-PTC conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for the college experience. Academic integrity is a vital component of collegiate behavior. The UA-PTC catalog states, “The gaining of knowledge and the practice of honesty go hand-in-hand.”

The catalog also states, “The responsibility and authority of initiating discipline arising from violations of the rules against dishonesty during the process of the course are vested in the instructor of that course.”

The complete Academic Integrity Policy is in the UA-PTC code of conduct.

*Under no circumstances will plagiarism be tolerated. Students who plagiarize will receive an “F” in the course.*

**Plagiarism consists of the following:**

- to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own
- to use (another's production) without crediting the source
- to commit literary theft
- to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source

In other words, plagiarism is an act of fraud. It involves both stealing someone else's work and lying about it afterward.

**Accommodation Policy**

Services for Students with Disabilities: UA-PTC is committed to fulfilling all federal requirements as stated in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the American with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Accommodations are available to students who have documented disabilities. Students who request accommodations must register with the Disability Services Office (Main Campus: 501-812-2738 or South Campus: 501-812-2862) and must provide current and relevant documentation.

Students requesting accommodations should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course or as soon as accommodations are approved. It is the student's responsibility to provide their Accommodation Letter to the instructor. Accommodations are not retroactive and will only be provided once your instructor receives the Accommodation Letter.

**Student Code of Conduct**

All students are expected to abide by the UA-PTC Student Code of Conduct. For the full Student Code of Conduct, access the most current version of the UA-PTC Academic Catalog.

[http://uaptc.azurewebsites.net/docs/default-source/course-catalog/2017-18-academic-catalog.pdf?sfvrsn=a08a3038_2](http://uaptc.azurewebsites.net/docs/default-source/course-catalog/2017-18-academic-catalog.pdf?sfvrsn=a08a3038_2)

**Sexual Misconduct**
No person at Pulaski Technical College will, on the basis of gender, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to sex discrimination, sexual harassment or sexual misconduct under any education program or activity. All college administrative policies and procedures regarding sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct are in compliance with Title IX. Students who feel they are victims of sexual misconduct should contact the UA-PTC Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Students:

Michelle Anderson, Director of Student Life and Leadership
Campus Center Building Room 216
501-812-2756
manderson@uaptc.edu

Course Evaluations

Students may be asked to evaluate their instructor and course near the end of the semester. These student evaluations are very important to the improvement in the quality of instruction and course materials. All results are anonymous and shared with the faculty only after the semester is over and grades have been posted.

Information Literacy

UA-PTC is committed to the Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education as established by the Association of College and Research Libraries and endorsed by the National Forum on Information Literacy. Therefore, all courses will incorporate an information literacy component so that, by graduation, all students will be able to recognize the need for information, then locate, evaluate, synthesize, and communicate information in an ethical manner. Information literacy encompasses critical thinking, research, media, technology, health, business, and visual literacy skills to produce lifelong learners who can make informed decisions in the workplace and in their personal lives.

Tentative Course Schedule

Week 1 (January 9 – 20) Course Description and Syllabus – Introduction to the course and brief description of items being covered – Powerpoint on the basics of ethics

Week 2 (January 21 – 27) Discuss eastern ethics (Powerpoint).

Week 3 (January 28 – February 3) Read Chapter 1 in both books and discuss ethical theories.

Week 4 (February 4 – 10) Read on Utilitarianism, pages 29 & 40 and The Experience Machine page 46

Week 5 (February 11 – 17) Read on The Subjectivity of Values, page 49 and on The Social Contract – PDF handout – Read over potential case studies for group analysis

Week 6 (February 18 – 24) Read on The Categorical Imperative, page 61 and read on The Virtues, page 67 – Group Analysis – Worth 100 points
Week 7 (February 25 – March 3) Read on Master Morality and Slave Morality, page 74 and read on Caring Relations and Principles of Justice, page 78

Week 8 (March 4 - 10) Review for and complete midterm (250 points) – Discuss case study options and selection

Week 9 (March 11 - 17) Turn in Review of Ethical Theory (100 points). Read on abortion, pages 85 & 92

Week 10 (March 18 - 24) SPRING BREAK! – No assigned readings

Week 11 (March 25 – 31) Read on animals, pages 120 & 130 and read on euthanasia, pages 306 & 311

Week 12 (April 1 - 7) Read on starvation, pages 151 & 154

Week 13 (April 8 - 14) Read on the death penalty, pages 203 & 211

Week 14 (April 15 - 21) Read on sex, pages 246 & 253

Week 15 (April 22 - 28) Read on drugs, page 223 Turn in rough draft of Case Study Essay (100 points)

Week 16 (April 29 – May 5) Read on Racial Discrimination page 279. Final Exam

Week 17 (May 6 -7) Final Case Study due May 7th at 11:59PM

Final Exam Schedule: TBA

Disclaimer: This schedule is a guide for the semester. The instructor reserves the right to amend the schedule as necessary.
Course Agreement Form

Read, complete, and return to instructor:

I have read the course syllabus for Nicolette Smith’s Ethics and Society class at Pulaski Technical College, and I understand its content. I also understand the rules for the class, and I will follow and abide by these rules, including those relating to attendance, assignments, grading criteria, plagiarism, and behavior.

__________________________________________
Semester

__________________________________________
Date

__________________________________________
Print name

__________________________________________
Signature

__________________________________________
UA-UA-PTC Email address

__________________________________________
Telephone