I. Instructor Information

Name: Nicolette Smith
Office: Fine Arts & Humanities Office – CHARTS building – 4th floor
Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 8:25 – 9:25
            Tuesday and Thursday 12:15 – 1:15
            Friday 10:00 – 11:00 and as needed by appointment
Mailbox location: Fine Arts & Humanities Office located in the CHARTS building – 4th floor
Email: nsmith1@pulaskitech.edu
Phone: 501-812-2261

II. Catalog Description

3 Credit Hours (3 hours lecture per week)
An introductory course in ethics including an examination of such basic philosophical issues such as morality as compared with other normative subjects, ethical relativism and ethical objectivism, egoism and altruism, utilitarianism and deontological ethics, the relationship between ethics and religion, etiquette, and law, and eastern ethics.

PREREQUISITE: Students enrolled in PHIL 1310 must meet one of the following requirements:
- Completion of DEVE 0324 (Composition Fundamentals) with a grade of "C" or better
- A score of 19 or above on the English section of the ACT
- A score of 75 or above on the COMPASS Writing Placement Test
- A score of 50 or above on the Accuplacer Writing Placement Test

III. Course Resources

See instructor for details

IV. General Education Institutional Learning Outcomes
PTC 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: http://www.pulaskitech.edu/sla/mission.asp

V. 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

VI. Course Objectives

The student will:

1. Develop an appreciation of various ethical theories.
2. Demonstrate critical inquiry into contemporary societal issues that pertain to ethics.
3. Demonstrate a familiarity with the crucial concepts relevant to a philosophical analysis of morality and values.
4. Develop an understanding of various societal constraints such as religion, law, and etiquette, as they relate to the development of ethics.

Course Content

Through discussion and the use of historical and contemporary readings students will gain an understanding of concepts and argumentation relevant to a philosophical analysis of ethics. The class will require students to read and write critically, and exams and writing assignments will be used to reinforce student knowledge of these topics.

VII. Attendance Policy

Agencies granting financial assistance may be notified of the violation of the attendance policy by students receiving financial aid. Attendance is taken starting the first day of the semester, with the exception of students who enroll after classes have started.

Teachers have the right to count students as absent if they arrive late to class, leave class early, or go in and out of the classroom during class time. Teachers have the right to lower a student’s grade based on excessive absences.

Any student who misses two consecutive weeks of class may be administratively withdrawn from the class. Any student who does not come to class within the first two weeks of class will be considered a “no show” according to the campus attendance policy and will be reported as such and dropped from the class.
Teachers have the right to enforce PTC’s administrative drop policy for days of consecutive nonattendance. Such particulars as determined by the instructor are detailed in the paragraph below.

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.

VIII. Classroom Policies

The PTC Catalogue rules and regulations will be enforced in this class at all times.

Please consult the following website for more information:
http://www.pulaskitech.edu/admission/web_catalog/

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

Treat others with respect. Do not make an exception for yourself. If you need to have a conversation related to something other than the topic at hand, do so outside of class.

IX. Grading

Letter grades will be based on the following scale:

90 to 100%  A  
80 to 89%  B  
70 to 79%  C  
60 to 69%  D  
0 to 59%  F

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 which will be peer reviewed. 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.

Essays:
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.

X. Academic Integrity

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

The handbook 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 can be found in the PTC Student Handbook.

XI. Accommodation Policy

Services for Students with Disabilities: PTC is committed to fulfilling all federal requirements as stated in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Accommodations are available to students who have documented disabilities. Students who request accommodations must register with the Coordinator of Disability Services in Counseling Services (501-812-2220 or www.pulaskitech.edu) prior to the semester of planned enrollment, and must provide recent documentation of medical, educational, and/or psychological records.

Students who need accommodations should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Accommodations will only be provided if the instructor receives a letter of approved accommodations from the Coordinator of Disability Services. Failure to provide sufficient notification may result in a delay of services.

XII. 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 PTC Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Students:

Michelle Anderson, Dean of Students
Campus Center Building Room 212
501-812-2756
manderson@pulaskitech.edu
Additional information, including the PTC sexual assault policy, procedures, and resources may be found online at http://www.pulaskitech.edu/sexual_misconductAwareness/.

XIII. 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.

XIV. Information Literacy

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.

XV. Course Schedule

FALL 2017

Week 1 (January 16 - 21) Course Description and Syllabus – Introduction to the course and brief description of items being covered – Powerpoint on the basics of ethics

Week 2 (January 22 - 28) Discuss eastern ethics (Powerpoint).

Week 3 (January 29 – February 4) Read Chapter 1 in both books and discuss ethical theories.

Week 4 (February 5 - 11) Read on Utilitarianism, pages 29 & 40 (grey book), pages 70 & 145 (orange book) and on Experience Machine page 46 (grey book) and page 262 (orange book)

Week 5 (February 12 - 18) Read on The Subjectivity of Values, page 49 (grey book) and page 31 (orange book) and on The Social Contract (handout in grey book) and page 56 in orange book

Week 6 (February 19 - 25) Read on The Categorical Imperative, page 61 (grey book) and page 81 (orange book). Read on The Virtues, page 67 (grey book) and page 43 (orange book)

Week 7 (February 26 – March 4) Read on Master Morality and Slave Morality, page 74 (grey book) and handout (orange book). Read on Caring Relations and Principles of Justice, page 78 (grey book) and page handout (orange book)

Week 8 (March 5 - 11) Review for and complete midterm (250 points) – Discuss case study options and selection

Week 9 (March 12 - 18) Turn in Review of Ethical Theory (100 points). Read on abortion, pages 85 & 92 (grey book) and pages 89 & 97 (orange book)
Week 10 (March 19-25) **Spring Break – No classes or assignments**

Week 11 (March 26 – April 1) Read on animals, pages 120 & 130 (grey book) and page 166 and handout (orange book)  Read on euthanasia, pages 306 & 311 (grey book) and pages 151 & 156 (orange book)

Week 12 (April 2 - 8) Read on starvation, pages 151 & 154 (grey book) and pages 135 & 138 (orange book)

Week 13 (April 9 - 15) Read on the death penalty, pages 203 & 211 (grey book) and handouts (orange book)

Week 14 (April 16 - 22) Read on sex, pages 246 & 253 (grey book) and handouts (orange book)

Week 15 (April 23 – 29) Read on drugs, page 223 (grey book) and 248 (orange book) **Turn in rough draft of Case Study Essay (100 points) – Peer Review**

Week 16 (April 30 – May 6) Read on euthanasia, pages 306 & 311 (grey book) and pages 151 & 156 (orange book) -Complete Final Exam

Week 17 (May 7 - 11) **Final Case Study Essay Due! DATE OF FINAL – May 8th (200 points)**

Email to nsmitth1@pulaskitech.edu by midnight

**Disclaimer:** The schedule is a guide for the semester. The instructor reserves the right to amend the schedule as necessary
XIV. 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 __________________________

Email address __________________________
(please use your PTC email address)

Telephone __________________________