

Philosophy 518
Professional Ethics
Spring II 2016

Course Description: This course explores what distinguishes professionals, both conceptually and ethically. After these general investigations, it focuses on ethical dimensions and dilemmas for five professions in particular: accounting and finance, engineering, journalism, law, and medicine.

Professor: Dr. Fritz Allhoff
M 1:00-2:00, (269) 387-4503

Website: blackboard.cmich.edu

Text: Fritz Allhoff and Anand Vaidya (eds.), *Professions in Ethical Focus* (Calgary: Broadview Press, 2008). ISBN# 978-1-55111-699-0.

Grading—Undergraduate Students:

Multiple Choice Quizzes	20 pts/module * 15 modules	300 pts
Short Answer Questions	30 pts/module * 15 modules	450 pts
Discussion Forums	20 pts/module * 15 modules	300 pts
Final Paper		450 pts
	Total:	1,500 pts

Grading—Graduate Students:

Multiple Choice Quizzes	20 pts/module * 15 modules	300 pts
Short Answer Questions	30 pts/module * 15 modules	450 pts
Discussion Forums	20 pts/module * 15 modules	300 pts
Final Paper		950 pts
	Total:	2,000 pts

Readings: For each module, complete the assigned readings (see below) and review the slides. The slides are meant to supplement the reading, but surely do not replace it; there is material for which you are responsible in the text that may not appear on the slides. Reading in philosophy is *very* difficult, both because philosophers often write technically and because the questions they seek to answer are not always ones with which we are familiar. It is therefore of critical importance that you invest heavily in the reading, both by going slowly and, sometimes, by going through it more than once. Understanding the reading is the key to success in this course.

Quizzes: For each module, you will complete a multiple choice quiz and short answer questions. The multiple choice quiz comprises ten questions—each worth two points—and has an allowance of thirty minutes. There are three short answer questions—each worth ten points—that have a combined allowance of ninety minutes. Short answer questions should be answered in two to three paragraphs each; that said, use your judgment on what sort of detail is required. You may use the text for both the multiple choice quiz and the short answer questions, but, because of the time limits, should prepare before you begin.

Quizzes open at 12:00 a.m. on Monday and close at 11:59 p.m. on Saturday. Note that they must be *completed* (i.e., not just started) by the expiration times. Also note that the correct answers do not display until after the quiz *closes* (i.e., not when you complete it).

Discussion Forums: For each module, you should make a post reacting to either the theme of that module or to particular readings within it. These posts should be *no fewer than 100 words*. You should also *respond* to at least two different posts from your classmates; you should generally apply to the original post, but may engage themes emergent in the discussion thread as well. These responses should be *no fewer than 50 words*. Your original post is worth 10 points and your reply posts are worth 5 points each.

The original posts must be submitted no later than Thursday at 11:59 p.m. during the module's release period; the response posts must be submitted by the close of the module on Saturday at 11:59 p.m.

Journal Entries: Quizzes *cannot be re-opened for any reason*, nor can they be made available beyond the release dates provided below. However, with the understanding that personal exigencies or technical difficulties sometimes arise, a missed module—comprising the multiple choice quiz and short answer questions—can be replaced with a *journal entry of 1,000 words ($\pm 10\%$)*, worth fifty points. Journal entries can also be used to *replace* modules *after* the quizzes (or some part thereof) are attempted. These journal entries should engage the reading assignment for the module and be *half exegetical* and *half analytical*. They are due within a week of the close of the module that it services, and late submissions will not be accepted. Journal entries should be submitted through Blackboard under the "Paper and Journals" link and not sent by email.

No more than two journal entries are allowed; any more misses will result in a zero for the module. No module for which a journal entry is submitted can serve as the basis for the final paper (see below). Blackboard cannot automatically replace modules with journal entries—I have to do this manually at the end of the semester—so do not worry if it still looks like you have a zero for a missed module.

Final Paper—Undergraduate Students: By the end of the course, you will write a final paper on some module of your choosing. It should be *2,500 words (± 10%)*; deviations from this range will be penalized. You should spend approximately half of the paper *summarizing* the key ideas from the module, and the other half *evaluating* those ideas. (Do not discuss *all* of the ideas in the module, but rather choose *some* ideas and develop a coherent and integrated essay around them.)

In addition to the textbook, you must have *at least five external sources* that you incorporate into your paper, and *at least ten footnotes*. Use whatever footnote format you are most comfortable with and include a bibliography at the end of the paper. Try to use authoritative, peer-reviewed sources as opposed to only websites. Wikipedia is not an acceptable source, though you may use it to get suggestions for other sources.

Because final grades are due immediately following the end of the course, *late papers will not be accepted*. Papers should be submitted through Blackboard under the “Paper and Journals” link and not sent by email.

Final Paper—Graduate Students: By the end of the course, you will write a final paper on some topic of your choosing. It should be *5,000 words (± 10%)*; deviations from this range will be penalized. No more than one third of the paper should be *exegetical* and at least two thirds of the paper should *develop original argumentation*.

In addition to the textbook, you must have *at least ten external sources* that you incorporate into your paper, and *at least twenty footnotes*; the majority of your sources should be scholarly (e.g., books, peer-review journals, etc.). Use whatever footnote format you are most comfortable with and include a bibliography at the end of the paper. Wikipedia is not an acceptable source, though you may use it to get suggestions for other sources.

Because final grades are due immediately following the end of the course, *late papers will not be accepted*. Papers should be submitted through Blackboard under the “Paper and Journals” link and not sent by email.

COURSE SCHEDULE

MODULE	TOPIC	OPENS	CLOSES	READINGS
1	Why Study Professional Ethics?	3/7	3/19	Greenwood; Sanders; Davis
2	Accountants' Obligations and Virtues	3/7	3/19	Abdolmohammadi and Nixon; Melé
3	Learning from Corporate Scandals	3/14	3/19	"The Lessons from Enron"; Rockness and Rockness; Gowthorpe and Amat
4	Insider Trading	3/14	3/19	Werhane; Machan; Lippke
5	The Moral Foundations of Engineering	3/21	3/26	Davis; Pritchard
6	The Role of the Engineer	3/21	3/26	De George; Frantz; Ladd
7	Ethical Dilemmas in Engineering	3/28	4/2	Martin; McCuen; Turnick
8	Journalists and Objectivity	3/28	4/2	Detmer; Ryan; Quinn
9	Journalists and Privacy	4/4	4/9	Winch; Wilkins; Thompson
10	Lawyers' Obligations and Virtues	4/4	4/9	Freedman; Cohen; Gutman
11	Confidentiality between Lawyer and Client	4/11	4/16	Landesman; Pizzimenti

12	Lawyers' Duty to Represent	4/11	4/16	Wolfram; Kipnis
13	The Virtuous Physician and the Doctor-Patient Relationship	4/18	4/23	Hippocratic Oath; Pelligrino; Emanuel and Emanuel
14	Trust and Confidentiality	4/18	4/23	Thomasma; Siegler; Kipnis
15	Informed Consent, Competence, and Surrogate Decision Making	4/25	4/30	Katz; Buchanan and Brock; Brock
N/A	Final Paper due 4/30 by 11:59 p.m.			