

## ETHICS

Revised 1.4.12

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**COURSE NUMBER:** PHI 110

**PREREQUISITE(S):** ENG 100 and RDG 100 or exemption of these through placement

**CO-REQUISITE(S):** None

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS** This course is a study of the moral principles of conduct emphasizing ethical problems and modes of ethical reasoning.

**GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES:**

**Students who complete the general education core curriculum should be able to demonstrate**

- 1. rationality, logic, and coherence, through critical thinking;**
  - 2. their ability to express themselves effectively in written and oral communication;**
  3. their ability to express themselves effectively in quantitative and qualitative terms;
  - 4. their knowledge of the value and significance of diverse cultures;**
  5. the scientific method of inquiry;
  - 6. their knowledge of global, political, social, economic, and historical perspectives; and**
- their ability to access, retrieve, synthesize, and evaluate information**

**TEXTBOOK(S):** Rachels, James. The Elements of Moral Philosophy. 5th ed. Boston: McGraw, 2007.  
ISBN# 0-0731-2547-4

Rachels, James, ed. The Right Thing To Do. 4th ed. Boston: McGraw, 2007.  
ISBN# 0-0731-2546-6

**OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS, TOOLS, AND EQUIPMENT:**

NA

**METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:**

This course will be taught by a variety of methods, which may include lecture, audio-visual materials, peer critique sessions, and collaborative learning techniques. In addition, instructors may enhance the course through use of a BlackBoard platform and may include discussion boards, chat rooms, posted lectures, streaming video, and other virtual learning tools.

**GRADING SYSTEM:**

93 - 100 = A  
85 - 92 = B  
75 - 84 = C  
65 - 74 = D  
0 - 64 = F

A grade of C is required for transferability.

**GRADE CALCULATION METHOD:**

Exams	=	60%
Written assignments	=	30%
Class preparation and participation	=	10%
	=	<u>100%</u>

Students found guilty of committing an act of academic misconduct at any level of their class work/communication (including, but not limited to, homework assignments, journals, drafts of essays, classroom or online discussions, and final essays) will receive a sanction. At minimum, an instructor may sanction a student by assigning a zero for 10% of the student's final grade; all students suspected of academic misconduct will be referred to the Chief Instructional Officer or her designee. See **Academic Conduct**, below, as well as section III.C of the Student Code for Spartanburg Community College.

Because instructors in the Humanities & Languages Department encourage students to write several drafts of their assignments before presenting a final draft, and because they maintain high expectations of their students' adherence to standards, students should not assume that late or inferior work is acceptable. The acceptance of late assignments **(with documented evidence of a sound reason for**

**lateness)** and the opportunity to rewrite are privileges that may or may not be granted by the instructor; **if the instructor does grant such privileges, only one late assignment and one rewrite are allowed per semester.** The administration of make-up tests is also at the instructor's discretion. **If these are allowed, a student may make up a maximum of one missed test per semester in this course.**

## **ATTENDANCE** **POLICY:**

The student is responsible for punctual and regular attendance in all classes, laboratories, clinical, practica, internships, field trips, and other required class activities. The College does not grant excused absences; therefore, students are urged to reserve their absences for emergencies. When illness or other emergencies occur, the student is responsible for notifying instructors and completing missed work if approved for late submission by instructors. Students should not expect instructors to re-teach material. In order to return to class prepared, students should follow the instructor's agenda and, if possible, communicate with classmates.

The student is tardy if not in class at the time the class is scheduled to begin and is admitted to class at the discretion of the instructor. In addition, students are expected to remain in class for the entire time it is scheduled.

Students should be aware that grades are drastically influenced by absenteeism, tardiness, and leaving class early. Essays and presentations, exams, in-class assignments, homework, and quizzes may earn zeroes if they are due when a student is absent, if they are due at the beginning of a class period for which the student is tardy, or if they are due at the end of a period when a student leaves early.

See the instructor's addendum for specific policies regarding the acceptance of late work and the ability to make up missed tests. **If they are allowed, only one major assignment and one test may be completed/submitted late.**

Instructors maintain attendance records. However, it is the student's responsibility to withdraw from a course. A student enrolling in and attending at least one course session remains enrolled until the student initiates a withdrawal. The instructor's signature is not required; students wishing to withdraw must contact the Student Records office (864-592-4681 or [www.sccsc.edu/Records](http://www.sccsc.edu/Records) or visit room SSB

156 on Central Campus).

**Withdrawal Policy:** During the first 75% of the course, a student may initiate a withdrawal and receive a grade of W. A student cannot initiate a withdrawal during the last 25% of the course. (Neither can an instructor; instructors do not initiate withdrawals at any point.) Extenuating circumstances require documentation and approval by the appropriate department head and academic dean. **The deadline for students who wish to withdraw from this course is**

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**Absences for Religious Holidays:** Students who are absent from class in order to observe religious holidays are responsible for the content of any activities missed and for the completion of assignments occurring during the period of absence. Students who anticipate their observance of religious holidays will cause them to be absent from class and do not wish such absences to penalize their status in class should adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Observance of religious holidays resulting in three or fewer consecutive absences: Discuss the situation with the instructor and provide written notice at least one week prior to the absence(s). Develop (in writing) and instructor-approved plan which outlines guidelines for making up activities and assignments.
2. Observances of religious holidays resulting in four or more consecutive absences: Discuss the situation with the instructor and provide the instructor with written notice within the first 10 days of the academic term. Develop an instructor-approved plan with outlines guidelines for making up activities and assignments.

**ACADEMIC  
CONDUCT:**

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** Students are expected to uphold the integrity of the College's standard of conduct, specifically in regards to academic honesty. All forms of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on assignments/tests, plagiarism, collusion, and falsification of information will call for disciplinary action. Disciplinary action imposed may include one or more of the following: written reprimand, loss of credit for assignment/test, termination from course, and probation, suspension, or expulsion from the College. For further explanation of this and other conduct

codes, please refer to the Student Handbook.

**PLAGIARISM:** Please see attached matrix of sanctions.

**CELLULAR PHONES AND PAGERS/BEEPERS:** Cellular phones, pagers and beepers are not permitted to be turned on or used within the classroom. Use of these devices during classroom time will be considered a violation of the student code as it relates to “disruptive behavior.”

In Humanities & Languages classes, all electronic devices such as cell phones, laptops, blackberries, iPods, MP3 players, and other PCDs are not allowed in the class room. (Laptops may be brought in only if the instructor specifically requests them.) Blue tooth devices, ear plugs, and earphones are prohibited as well. With proper identification, emergency responders may keep cell phones active during class.

**CLASS/LAB PROCEDURES:**

Refer to instructor’s addendum.

Students planning to transfer should keep a portfolio of materials (syllabus, assignments, etc.) from PHI 110. Receiving institutions outside of South Carolina may wish to review the content of this course before rewarding the appropriate credit.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Students who need special accommodations in this class because of a documented disability should notify Student Disability Services by calling (864) 592-4818, toll-free 1-800-922-3679; via email through the SCC web site at [www.sccsc.edu/resources/disabilities](http://www.sccsc.edu/resources/disabilities); or by visiting the office located in the East Building Room 30-B on the SCC Central campus. Contacting Student Disability Services early in the semester gives the College an opportunity to provide necessary support services and appropriate accommodations.

**COURSE  
COMPETENCIES &  
OBJECTIVES:**

**Upon satisfactory completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

- I. Recognize different traditions and topics in the study of ethics
  1. Discuss topics related to the study of ethics
  2. Write about traditions and topics in the study of ethics
  3. Respond to exam questions regarding traditions and topics in the study of ethics
  
- II. Analyze various viewpoints on issues in the study of ethics
  1. Orally analyze viewpoints on issues in the study of ethics
  2. Analyze and respond to viewpoints on ethics in written assignments
  3. Analyze and respond to viewpoints on ethics on exams
  
- III. Apply correctly terms and categories used in the study of ethics
  1. Use terms related to the study of ethics in class discussion
  2. Use terms related to the study of ethics in written assignments
  3. Identify and explain terms related to the study of ethics on exams

Level 1 violation occurring in either a graded or an ungraded assignment	1 <sup>st</sup> offense sanction	2 <sup>nd</sup> offense sanction	3rd offense sanction	4th offense sanction
<p>1. Level 1 violations include repeated documentation errors in an assignment: incomplete or incorrect in-text citations or list of resources, such as a bibliography; for example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Missing quotation marks around directly quoted material; citation included</li> <li>• Quotation marks around words, phrases, or sentences that do not match original exactly (or failing to use brackets and/or ellipses to show changes made); citation included</li> <li>• Quotation marks with missing or incorrect citation</li> <li>• Resources presented in such a way that attribution, while attempted, is unclear</li> <li>• Bibliographic entry that is missing identifying information</li> <li>• Citation in text not referenced in bibliography</li> <li>• Failure to change sentence structure or an organizational strategy in paraphrases; citations included</li> <li>• Substituting synonyms in paraphrase; citations included</li> </ul>	<p>May be handled by instructor</p>	<p>Instructor must report student's violation to Dep't Chair and VP of Student Affairs, who will keep documentation on file. If student has committed other academic violations at SCC, the VP will inform the instructor and Dep't Chair.</p> <p>Assignment carries a grade of 0/F until it is resubmitted; resubmitted assignment may not earn a grade higher than C</p> <p>Student should be encouraged to work on mastering documentation by taking advantage of services available on campus; s/he is required to complete the tutorial on avoiding plagiarism offered through the SCC Library</p>	<p>Instructor must report student's violation to Dep't Chair and VP of Student Affairs, who will keep documentation on file. If student has committed other academic violations at SCC, the VP will inform the instructor and Dep't Chair.</p> <p>Assignment receives a grade of 0/F; student does not have resubmission privileges</p>	<p>Instructor must report student's violation to Dep't Chair and VP of Student Affairs, who will keep documentation on file. If student has committed other academic violations at SCC, the VP will inform the instructor and Dep't Chair.</p> <p>Student is withdrawn from class; grade of 0/F for semester is recorded</p> <p>(For any further offense, student's sanctions move to level 2, 3rd offense.)</p>
<p>Level 2 violation committed in either a graded or an ungraded assignment</p>	<p>1st offense sanction</p>	<p>2nd offense sanction</p>	<p>3rd offense sanction</p>	<p>4<sup>th</sup> offense sanction</p>

<p>2. Level 2 violations include any act of plagiarism: the criminal offense of using someone else's intellectual property (language, ideas, or any original material) and presenting it as one's own; or abetting any act of plagiarism; for example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failing to submit a list of resources used (such as a Works Cited page), whether or not resources are cited in assignment</li> <li>• Failing to cite within a work the ideas, language, or any original material of another, with or without a list of resources used</li> <li>• Allowing another person to contribute his or her original thoughts, language, or creative skills to an assignment without crediting that person; in foreign language classes, this includes accepting uncredited help from translators or native speakers</li> <li>• Copying or cutting and pasting another source or any portion of another source without crediting it</li> <li>• Crediting one source for material created by another source, which is not credited</li> <li>• Mosaic plagiarism: mixing non-credited material with properly cited material</li> <li>• Buying, stealing, or using, with or without permission, another's work or portion of a work without crediting that person</li> <li>• Creating or writing an assignment and allowing another student to submit it as his or her own</li> <li>• Attempting to commit plagiarism</li> </ul>	<p>Instructor must report student's violation to Dep't Chair and VP of Student Affairs, who will keep documentation on file. If student has committed other academic violations at SCC, the VP will inform the instructor and Dep't Chair.</p> <p>Assignment receives a grade of 0</p>	<p>Instructor must report student's violation to Dep't Chair and VP of Student Affairs, who will keep documentation on file. If student has committed other academic violations at SCC, the VP will inform the instructor and Dep't Chair.</p> <p>Student is withdrawn from class; grade of 0/F for semester is recorded</p> <p>Student is placed on disciplinary probation.</p>	<p>Instructor must report student's violation to Dep't Chair and VP of Student Affairs, who will keep documentation on file.</p> <p>Student is placed on disciplinary suspension from SCC for the current and the following semester, beginning immediately; final grades in all courses are averaged as of that day; no refunds are given</p>	<p>Student is expelled from SCC</p>
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