



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
PHIL-120	Ethics	6
Department	Semester	Prerequisites
Social Sciences	Fall, Spring	None
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Elective	General Education	
Level of Course	Year of Study	Lecturer(s)
1st Cycle	1st & 2nd	Dr Pavlos Michaelides
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Co-requisites
	N/A	None
Recommended Optional Programme Components: N/A		

Objectives of the Course:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- provide students with a spherical approach to foundational ethical issues
- discuss the main forms of ethical thinking, ancient and contemporary
- thoroughly identify and discuss applied ethical issues as these relate to everyday practices
- engage and clarify the relationship between the ‘ego’ and the ‘world’ through philosophical and ethical modes of appropriation and comprehension
- engage themes corollary to the ethical responsibility we bear before other humans and other forms of life
- clarify the relationship between the ethical way of life and the deepening of critical thinking in view of a pluralist and multicultural perspective
- critically engage the notions of ethical truth and untruth in view of a philosophy of freedom.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

- critically assess the notion of the ethical in view of philosophical thought and knowledge.
- critically engage ethical principles as these relate to the hermeneutics of philosophical truth.
- examine existential notions of the ethical way of being such as 'the body', 'sexuality', 'friendship', 'marriage', 'entertainment', 'occupation', 'old age' and 'death' from a multicultural ethical perspective.
- critically evaluate key philosophical and ethical issues, practical and contemplative.
- determine essential meanings of virtue, ancient and contemporary.
- analyze and synthesize issues of identity and ethical determination.
- engage the dynamics of an ethical way of thought and life through an existential appropriation of everyday encounters with self and other.

8. spherically interpret the ethical way of life as it relates to the everyday.

Course Contents:

1. Introduction/ Philosophy and the human *bios*/Ethical practice: *biosophy*/The philosophical tradition and ethical theories/Ethical predominance of the person/Ethical consciousness: meaning and historical understanding, aetiology/Critical and contemplative thought.
2. A critical assessment of the ultimate ethical Good: Plato, Aristotle, Epictetus, Jesus, Buddha, Gandhi. Existence and philosophy of freedom/ the therapeutics of body and consciousness dichotomies/*Philia* and *philosophia*: friendship with the body and mind/Against corruption and untruth.
3. *Paideia* and philosophical nuances of learning and teaching practices. Ethical learning; tenets of culture and knowledge. The long search for the origins of ethics: Plato, Aristotle, Mencius, Rousseau, Hume, Kant, Marx, Nietzsche, Freud/Learning and *ethos*/The *ethos* of lifelong learning/ The pedagogics of human freedom.
4. The ethical understanding of personhood /Good and bad way of life/Art: the good and the beautiful/ The place of science and reason/The teachers of virtue and the virtuous way of life; after virtue/Moral questions/The axioms of Ethics/Reason and passion.
5. The distinction between sex and *eros*/*Eros* and art: ennoblement, purification and elevation/Platonic *Symposium* and *Phaedrus* on the ethics of eros/Ethics of love.
6. Marriage and the ethical/Kinship, reciprocity, sexual morality/Reciprocal altruism/Coexistence of desire, *eros* and love/Social and cultural perspectives and dimensions on marriage/Marriage and philosophical understandings.
7. Friendship and the ethical/friendship—a treasure for the mature and worthy person/Plato (*Republic*) and Aristotle (*Nicomachean Ethics*) on friendship/friendship and the state/Friendship and political action (Walzer)/Sartre: existentialism and human emotion.
8. Old Age: the failure or crowning of the ethical way of life (Plato's *Republic*)/The Integrated or un-integrated life, peace or stagnancy and bitterness/inactivity, memory, will power, consciousness, spirit and ethos/Moral dilemmas of old age/Old age and Justice (Plato's *Apology*).
9. The metaphysical and practical dimensions of the reality of death (Plato's *Apology*)/Death and the ethical/Investigating past and present/Suicide and heroism/Euthanasia/On Immortality and duty (Kant).
10. Addiction and consciousness/ Despair and responsibility/The inner dynamics, psychology of change and the ethical power that supports it/The wisdom of the human psyche/The consciousness of truth and emotional dilemmas/Moral saints (Wolf).
11. The spectrum of dishonesty and the appropriation of truth/The way of truth and the labyrinth of illusion/The creative life and a life without the muses/Disharmony, discord, conflict and incongruities/The ethics of agreeable and disagreeable attitude/The ethics of overcoming negativity and disillusionment/The virtuous way of life.
12. The movement from slavery to the fluidity of an ethical way of life/Psychology and ethics of sickness/Doctor of moral truth/Justice and the rights of

persons/Abortion/Rights of animals/The natural and moral law/Buddhist Ethics.

Learning activities and teaching methods:

Lecture, experiential workshops, individual and group feedback, dialogical discussions, multimedia presentation of ethical ways of life.

Assessment Methods:

Homework, Midterm, Final Exam.

Required textbooks/reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
G. Marino (ed.)	Ethics: The Essential Writings	Modern Library	2010	9780812977783
P. Singer	Ethics	Oxford Reader	1994	9780192892454

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
K Boudouris (ed.)	Greek Philosophy and the Problems of our Epoch (Greek)	Ionia Publications	2009	9789607670717
S. M. Cahn & P. Markie	Ethics: History, Theory, and Contemporary Issues	Oxford University Press	2002	0195142004
R. A. Howard & C. D. Corver	Beyond Good and Evil (Greek)	Published by Authors	2008	9781422121061
Dalai Lama	Ethics for the New Millennium	Berkley Publishing	1999	1573228834