UGEC 2841

Applied Ethics

Course Outline

Mode of Teaching: Online

Time: Wed 12:30pm – 2:15pm

Teacher's name: Prof. Hon-Lam Li (李翰林)

Email: honlamli@hotmail.com

Course overview (as shown on CUSIS)

本科由哲學角度分析當今社會的一些備受爭議的道德課題，並藉此展示哲學學說與社會之相關性。課題包括墮胎、動物權益、刑罰、死刑、及安樂死等。本科會講授規範倫理學說，及探討其如何有助我們分析上述問題，並鼓勵學生建立及論證自己的觀點。

Learning outcomes (as shown on CUSIS)

- Understand the nature of applied ethics.
- Recognize the characteristics and importance of some main problems of applied ethics.
- Reflect on problems of applied ethics, and try to resolve them.
- Understand each problem of applied ethics in its own right, and whether a particular problem must be resolved.
- Identify the characteristics and value of ethical theories.
- Explain and assess different moral stances in a way that is clear and non-doctrinaire.

Topics

- Abortion
- Animal ethics
- The death penalty
- Medically assisted death

Learning activities

- Lecture (2 hours per week)
- Tutorial (1 hour per week)
- Readings (about 10 to 20 pages per week)
- Participation in tutorial (Must pass 80% of all tutorials in order to pass the course.)

Assessment scheme as prescribed on CUSIS (revise if necessary)

Task nature	***Description***	***Mode of Teaching #***	***Weight***
Paper 1	A four-page paper on abortion	take home	30%
Paper 2	A six-page paper on another topic	take home	45%
Tutorial contribution	Tutorial contribution throughout the Term	Online	25%

delete as appropriate

Backup plan for assessment in case face-to-face teaching and assessment is not possible due to the pandemic (no need to fill in if the class and related assessments are to be conducted online)

Task nature	*Description*	*Weight*

Grade Descriptor

Please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Recommended learning resources

To be filled in by teacher

Course schedule

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: Mary Ann Warren's view on abortion

Week 3: Judith Thomson's defense of abortion

Week 4: Don Marquis criticism of abortion

Week 5: Peter Singer on Animal Liberation

Week 6: Tom Regan's case for Animal Rights

Week 7: The case against animal liberation and animal rights

Week 8: Quasi-vegetarianism

Week 9: Retributivism

Week 10: Deterrence Theory

Week 11: Miscarriage of Justice

Week 12: The case against Medically Assisted Death

Week 13: The case for Medically Assisted Death

Contact details for teacher(s)

Instructor: Professor Hon-Lam Li

Email address: honlamli@hotmail.com

Mobile phone number: 9582-8900

Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.