



## CURRICULUM GUIDE: OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code	PHIL 110	Course Title	Introduction to Moral Philosophy			
Credit Value	3	Department	Humanities			
No. of weeks	14	Hrs. per week	<i>Lecture</i>	<i>Tutorial</i>	<i>Laboratory</i>	<i>Total</i>
			3	0	0	3
Course Description	An introduction to the central problems of ethics such as the nature of right and wrong, the objectivity or subjectivity of moral judgements, the relativity or absolutism of values, the nature of human freedom and responsibility. The course will also consider general moral views such as utilitarianism, theories of rights and specific obligations, and the ethics of virtue. These theories will be applied to particular moral problems such as abortion, punishment, distributive justice, freedom of speech, and racial and sexual equality.					
Prerequisite(s)	ENGL 099					
Initial Articulation Targets	<i>UBC</i>	<i>SFU</i>	<i>UVic</i>	<i>UNBC</i>	<i>TRU</i>	
	PHIL 102 (3)	PHIL 120 (3)	PHIL 100 Lev (1.5)	PHIL 1XX (3)	PHIL 1XXX (3)	
	For updated information on the transferability of this course, please consult the BC Transfer Guide, <a href="http://www.bctransferguide.ca">www.bctransferguide.ca</a>					
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and explain some of the central ethical theories in philosophy through the critical reading of classical and modern philosophical texts.</li> <li>Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of classical and modern philosophical theories about morality.</li> <li>Identify and explain some of the central problems in moral philosophy through the critical reading of classical and modern philosophical texts.</li> <li>Develop personal philosophical positions on some of these problems.</li> <li>Analyze and discuss moral theories and personal philosophical positions on moral issues in cogent, rational academic essays and low-stakes writing assignments.</li> </ul>					
Content	<p><b>Core</b> topics – all of the following will be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The nature of philosophy</li> <li>Arguments</li> <li>Reading and writing Philosophy</li> <li>Moral theories</li> <li>Ethical problems</li> </ul> <p>Additional topics may also be covered, at the discretion of the instructor.</p>					



Methods of Instruction	Lecture, class discussion, small group discussion.		
Required Textbook(s)	<p>The following textbook(s) is/are required, or approved equivalent(s).</p> <p>Blackburn, Simon. <i>Being Good: An Introduction to Ethics</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Geirsson, Heimur, and Margaret R. Holmgren (eds.). <i>Ethical Theory: A Concise Anthology</i>. Broadview.</p> <p>Pojman, Louis P. <i>Ethics: Discovering Right and Wrong</i>. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.</p> <p>Rachels, James. <i>The Elements of Moral Philosophy</i>. McGraw-Hill.</p> <p>Vaughn, Lewis, and Jillian Scott McIntosh. <i>Writing Philosophy: A Guide for Canadian Students</i>. Oxford University Press.</p>		
Required Equipment and Technology	<p>Students are required to have a computer with internet access.</p> <p>The following resources are provided by the College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Office 365</li> <li>• Student email</li> </ul>		
Homework Hours	At minimum, students can expect one hour of homework for every hour of instructional time.		
Evaluation	<i>Component</i>	<i>% Value</i>	
	<p>Quizzes, participation, and in-class assignments</p> <p>Essays and other written assignments</p> <p>Final examination</p> <p><i>*This course can be conducted successfully in different ways, hence the ranges.</i></p>	<p>20-50%</p> <p>30-60%</p> <p>30-50%</p>	
Completion Requirements	The minimum grade to pass this course is D (50%). Unless otherwise stated, a minimum grade of C- (55%) is required for this course to fulfil a prerequisite.		
Course Designer(s)	Norman Swartz, Ph.D., Department of Philosophy, Simon Fraser University	Consultant(s), if applicable	Jillian McIntosh, Ph.D., Department of Philosophy, Simon Fraser University
Dean's Approval	Barbara Moon, Ph.D. Dean of Arts and Sciences, Alexander College	Dean's Approval Date	September 27, 2006
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	September 27, 2006	First Term Offered	Fall 2008
Last Review Date	August 5, 2025	Next Review Date	August 5, 2030



Revision History	<p>August 23, 2006-Changes to articulation targets for SFU from PHIL 100 to PHIL 120.</p> <p>July 1, 2014-Updated by Jill McIntosh.</p> <p>February 1, 2016 – Library resources updated by Jill McIntosh.</p> <p>January 24, 2020 – Updates to learning outcomes and required textbook by Sebastian Huebel in consultation with Jill McIntosh, Lindsey bat Joseph, and Library staff.</p> <p>August 5, 2025 – Reviewed by Jill McIntosh, no changes</p>
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