

PHILOSOPHICAL ETHICS

Course: UCOR 151–04: Philosophical Ethics
Time: TR 1:40-2:55
Location: 609 Fisher Hall

Instructor: Kimberly Tucker
Office Hours: W 2:00-4:00
Email: tuckerk1@duq.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to encourage students to become self-conscious thinkers, who can reflect critically about the nature of ethics not only as understood by the Western philosophical tradition, but by the Eastern as well. Ethics is a branch of philosophy that deals with questions pertaining to both human and non-human values, as well as moral conduct. In this course, we will examine both theoretical and applied approaches to ethics. The ethical viewpoints we will be surveying draw from philosophy, religion, psychology, ecology, and poetry. They fall within four broad categories: (1) Jeremy Bentham's utilitarianism; (2) Aristotelian Virtue Ethics; (3) Zen Buddhist ethics; (4) Contemporary phenomenological ethics. We will then use these theoretical frameworks to analyze some critical ecological ethical issues facing the modern age.

TEXTS

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, Terence Irwin trans. (Hackett, 1999). ISBN-13: 978-0872204645.

Texts Available on Blackboard

Jeremy Bentham's *Principles of Morals and Legislation*. (Selections)
Eihei Dōgen's *Shōbōgenzō* (Treasury of the True Dharma Eye). (Selections)
Merleau-Ponty, "Nature and the Body," from *Phenomenology of Perception*.
Drew Leder, "Flesh and Blood: A Proposed Supplement to Merleau-Ponty."
David Abram's *The Spell of the Sensuous* and *Becoming Animal*. (Selections)
Gary Snyder's poem, "Endless Streams and Mountains."
Peter Singer, "Animal Liberation."
Gary Francione, "The Abolition of Animal Use Vs. Regulation of Animal Treatment."
Gary Francione, "Animals—Property or Persons?"
Will W. Adams, "The Primacy of Interrelating."
Will W. Adams, "Ecopsychological Ethics Via Zen Buddhist Phenomenology."

REQUIREMENTS

One protocol, two short papers, midterm and final exam.