

Brief Course Outline

| Course Title: | Introduction to Ethics & Value Theory | | |
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| Course Number and Section: | GLE | 2002G 550 | |
| Instructor Name(s): | Emerson Doyle | | |
| Instructor Email(s): | edoyle9@uwo.ca | | |

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

Value Theory is the study of how, why, and to what degree human beings value certain things or ideals over others. Ethics, on the other hand, is concerned to study and recommend principles of right action. What should we do in such-and-such a situation? What would be the moral thing to do?

In this course we will examine these issues by considering some of the premier theories of value and of right action in the Western philosophical tradition. We will also consider more carefully the relationship between ethics and value theory, as well as exploring applications of our analyses to some of the difficult moral questions facing humanity today.

Learning Outcomes:

An understanding of some of the most influential and prominent positions on the questions and topics outlined above.

Confront and critically evaluate our own attitudes or intuitions toward morality in general and on some difficult practical moral questions in particular.

Practice and improve your writing, critical analysis, and argumentative abilities.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Course readings will be posted on OWL. (Cost: \$0)

Methods Of Evaluation:

| Assignment | Due Date mm/dd/yy | Weight - % |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Active Learning | Various, in-class | 10 |
| Three Writing Assignments | Various | 60 |
| Final Exam (in-person) | Exam period | 30 |

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.