

## **Right and Wrong Phil 1250F (550), 2023 (Summer Days – Online)**

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Instructor: Lucien Lamoureux, LL.B., Ph.D.  
Student Meetings: Telephone or Zoom meetings can be arranged.  
Phone or Text: 519-702-6517 (cell)  
E-mail: [llamour2@uwo.ca](mailto:llamour2@uwo.ca)

### **CLASS INFORMATION**

Mon – Thu: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Lectures will be delivered online via Zoom.  
Website: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is an introduction to moral and political philosophy through competing conceptions of justice. In addition to introducing students to classical and contemporary theories of morality and justice, this course takes up legal and political issues that raise philosophical questions.

### **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the major theories of morality and justice.
2. Apply these theories to concrete situations.
3. Discuss competing points of view on issues of morality and justice.
4. Evaluate conflicting philosophical arguments related to these issues.
5. Formulate well-reasoned solutions to practical dilemmas.
6. Persuade others of a well-reasoned stance or action.
7. Demonstrate effective writing and skillful critical and reflective thinking.

Students may vary in their competency levels on these outcomes. They can expect to achieve these outcomes if they honour course policies, attend classes regularly, complete all assigned work in good faith and on time, and meet all other course expectations of them as students.

### **ANTIREQUISITE(S)**

None. Students wishing to audit the course should consult with the instructor prior to or during the first week of classes.

## **PREREQUISITE(S)**

None.

## **COURSE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT**

3 lecture hours/week; 0.5 course.

Lectures will be integrated with reading materials, visual presentations, individual and group cases or discussions.

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

### **Required texts:**

Justice: A Reader, edited by Michael J. Sandel, Oxford University Press (2007). (paperback)

Writing Philosophy: A Guide for Canadian Students, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Vaughn, Lewis and Scott McIntosh, Jillian, Oxford University Press (2012). (e-book or paperback)

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Attendance	10%
Essay #1 (Due: July 12)	25%
Essay #2 (Due: July 20)	30%
Final Essay Exam (Due: July 23)	35%

## **COPYRIGHT AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Webinars, PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction through audio-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on course-sharing websites is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions.

## **EVALUATION**

## **Class Attendance**

A 10% grade will be awarded on the basis of classroom attendance. In addition, students will be expected to discuss assigned readings and cases.

## **Essays**

**Statement on AI Use:** Using tools such as generative AI (including, but not limited to ChatGPT or Google Translate) is a scholastic offence which is subject to the penalties outlined in the academic calendar. Moreover, you must work directly and substantially from the authors' writings as these writings are presented in the required course material (as opposed to, for example, working primarily from lecture slides and/or other sources) and will be graded accordingly (see "Demonstrated Authenticity" in the marking criteria below).

**Assistance:** I am available to answer any questions you may have. If English is your second language or you have difficulty writing essays, I strongly recommend using the excellent services offered through the Writing Support Centre.

## **Format:**

- Word document due at the beginning of class.
- Title page with name, student number and essay title.
- 12-point, Times New Roman font.
- Standard margins, footer, and header with page numbers on the top right-hand corner.
- Lines are to be double-spaced, without an extra line-space between paragraphs.
- No section headings.
- Bibliography listing all sources used to write the essay.
- MLA style for in-text citation and bibliography (see *Writing Philosophy: A Guide to Canadian Students*, Appendix B).
- Total length: 5 pages (excluding title page and bibliography).

**Electronic Submission:** Submit your essay electronically under the "Assignments" tab on the left margin of OWL, which will automatically link it to turnitin.com to detect any scholastic offences (including the use of generative AI).

**Late Submissions:** Students must consult an Academic Advisor to obtain an extension.

## **Marking Criteria:**

**Demonstrated Authenticity:** Does the author make direct and substantial use of the philosophers' writings as these writings are presented in the required course material? Does the author judiciously incorporate relevant and significant quotations with genuine citations in the specified format? [10 marks]

**Understanding:** How well does the author understand the relevant lectures and required course material? How well does s/he understand the complexity of the issues involved? [10 marks]

**Argument:** Does the paper answer the question asked? Does the author offer objective and independent reasons and use cogent inferences to support his/her answer? Do the claims made in different parts of the paper follow from one another and are they consistent? [10 marks]

**Clarity:** Is the author's position clear with an explicitly articulated thesis? Is the paper clearly written overall? Could another student at the same level who is not enrolled in the course understand the paper? [10 marks]

**Organization:** Does the author reveal a plan for the paper at the outset and does s/he follow that plan? Are the paragraphs adequate and appropriate, and are they properly structured? [5 marks]

**Style:** Does the author use correct grammar and syntax? Have the guidelines for format been followed? [5 marks; note that significant departures from the required format can result in penalties that reduce this mark below 0].

### **Final Exam**

The format will be a 5-page take-home essay graded like the first and second essays. Students will have from July 20 to July 23 to complete the essay. Further details will be provided to the class later in the term.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

For course components worth 10% or more of the total course grade, please see the Academic Policies and Regulations section at the end of this course outline or consult the Academic Calendar.

For course components worth less than 10% of the total course grade, an academic accommodation will still be required. Supporting documentation should be submitted to your Academic Advisor.

### **Proposed Reading Syllabus (subject to revision)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignments (Due Wednesday)</b>
July 3	Introduction	Chapter 1	
	Utilitarianism	Chapter 2	
July 4	Libertarianism	Chapter 3	
July 5	Property Rights	Chapter 4	
July 6	Markets and Morals	Chapter 5	

July 10	Freedom as Autonomy	Chapter 6	
July 11	Justice as Fairness	Chapter 7	
July 12	Equality, Entitlement and Merit	Chapter 8	<b>Essay #1</b>
July 13	Affirmative Action	Chapter 9	
July 17	Justice and Virtue	Chapter 10	
July 18	Disability and Discrimination	Chapter 11	
July 19	Justice, Community and Membership	Chapter 12	
July 20	Moral Argument and Liberal Toleration Same-Sex Marriage	Chapters 13, 14	<b>Essay #2</b>

## **Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Summer 2023**

### **Student Code of Conduct**

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

### **Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

### **Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

### **Statement on Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](http://www.uwo.ca/academic_calendar) . The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf).

### **Turnitin.com**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

### **Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)**

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

### **Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

### **Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence**

- (a) **Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising**

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final

course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

**b) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising**

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

**c) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca).**

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [accommodation\\_medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca) for any further questions or information.

**Support Services**

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services at

[huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron



website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/> Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>  
Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1> Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>  
Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>  
Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

### **Wellness and Health Supports at Huron and Western**

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services:

[huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca) Community

Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)