

Ethics

Professor: Dr. Corey Beals
Office: Hoover 233
Office Hours: M, 1:30-3:30
or **by appt.** (call x.2650 for appt)
Phone: Ext. 2661

Course Number: PHIL 230
Semester: Spring 2009
Place: Stevens 109
Time: Section A 9:05-10:20am
Section B 10:35-11:50am

Course Description:

We will be trying to answer the questions, 'what is the good life?' with two follow up questions: 'how then do *I* live?' and 'how then do *we* live?' We will be using our faith, our thinking and the thoughts and examples of many who have spent time on this question.

Course Goals: You will be able to

1. Skills:

- read well*: read difficult texts on multiple levels
- think well*: identify presuppositions, implications, and applications of various ways of life
- listen well*: to both the living and the dead
- communicate well*: to both the living and the not-yet born

2. Knowledge:

- know *yourself* (including what you believe, what you value, what makes you do what you do)
- know *others* (including how past *philosophers* have thought about and enacted the good life)

3. Values:

- desire to grow in wisdom and humility
- desire to live well

Required Texts:

Plato (c.429-347 B.C.) *Gorgias*
Aristotle (384-322 B.C.) *Nicomachean Ethics*
Augustine, (A.D. 354-430) *On Free Choice of the Will*
Kierkegaard, (1813-1855) *Works of Love*
Levinas (1906-1995) Essay to be handed out

Requirements:

1. Being Present (10%)

Being present (in every way), on time and engaged in our discussion is crucial to success and participating in class will also be considered. I grant everyone 3 absences and do not put myself in the position of judging whether an absence is excused or not (so no need to notify me about absences unless it is a situation where you're in the hospital or some-such). Participation is not only speaking, but involves *listening* well to others.

2. Quizzes (10%)

Prior to each Tuesday you will take an on-line quiz prior to coming to class (it will need to be finished by 6am on Tuesday morning). This will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer and long answer). This is done so that the professor knows what you understand and what you don't understand. The results of these quizzes will be used to help focus the class on what needs more work. You get credit for completing this quiz.

3. Reading Log and Journal (20%)

Prior to each Thursday (to be finished by 6am on Thursday morning), you will fill out an on-line reading log questionnaire. You will also be asked to enter in a sample of what you have been writing in your journal.

4. *Exams (30%)*

There will be four short exams, each covering a text we read. Each exam will assess the skills of reading, thinking and listening. Each short exam will be worth 7.5% of your overall grade.

5. *Meeting with Professor*—Mid-semester, instead of meeting for usual class, you will meet individually with the professor to discuss what you've learned so far and to continue the conversation. You will bring your portfolio (so far) to this meeting. This will not be graded (except as part of your 'presence' grade). This is an opportunity to get acquainted with the professor and for him to get to know you. It is also an opportunity for you to ask questions you may have about the course thus far.

6. *Good Life Paper and Meeting (30%)*— What is your understanding of what a good life looks like, and how do you get there? This paper will give you the opportunity to work out which questions you think are most important and how you want to answer those questions as you live out your life. You will meet with the professor during finals week and present your paper to him during that meeting.

Evaluation

0-59=F, 60-69=D, 70-76=C, 77-79=C+, 80-82=B-, 83-86=B, 87-89=B+, 90-92=A-, 93-100=A

FoxTALE

This course will be using FoxTALE <https://foxtale.georgefox.edu/moodle/login/index.php>
For on-line quizzes, reading log responses, on-line reading, other resources as well as grades.

Plagiarism

Please avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism includes the obvious cases of using another person's writing without citing them, but it also includes using someone's ideas without citing them. The consequences for plagiarism could include failing the course or even expulsion from the university, as specified in the student handbook. I look forward to reading your honest grappling with the ideas and issues raised in the course.

The Academic Resource Center (ARC)

on the Newberg campus provides all students with free writing consultation, academic coaching, and learning strategies (e.g., techniques to improve reading, note-taking, study, time management). The ARC, housed on the second floor of the Murdock Learning Resources Center (library), is open from 1:00-10:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 12:00-4:00 p.m. on Friday. Call 503-554-2327 or email the_arc@georgefox.edu to schedule an appointment. Visit arc.georgefox.edu for information about ARC Consultants' areas of study, instructions for scheduling an appointment, and helpful learning tools.

Disability Services

If you have specific physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please contact the Disability Services Office as early as possible so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. You will need to provide current documentation of your disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, go to ds.georgefox.edu or contact Rick Muthiah, Dean of the Center for Teaching and Learning (503-554-2314 or rmuthiah@georgefox.edu).