

Ethics (ETH)

Courses

ETH 002 (HMS 002, REL 002) Death and Dying: Religious and Ethical Perspectives 4 Credits

Introduces students to the study of religion, world religious traditions and ethics through an exploration of death and dying. Rituals, practices and texts focused on death provide the basis for comparative study of Asian and Western religious approaches to the meaning and mystery of death as it confronts individuals and communities. Attention will also be given to moral justification for deaths brought about by human actions (i.e., killings). Specific issues include suicide, war deaths, abortion, euthanasia and state-sponsored execution.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 003 (PHIL 003, REL 003) Global Religion, Global Ethics 4 Credits

Introduction to philosophical and religious modes of moral thinking, with attention given to ethical issues as they arise cross-culturally in and through religious traditions. The course will reference the United Nations Millennium Goals to consider family life and the role of women, social justice, the environment, and ethical ideals. Particular focus varies but may include one or more of the following: abortion and reproductive health, the death penalty, religiously motivated violence, and problems of personal disorder (heavy drinking, anorexia, vengeance).

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 005 (PHIL 005) Contemporary Moral Problems: An Introduction to Philosophy 4 Credits

An examination of contemporary issues that raise questions about right and wrong, good and bad, both for individuals and for social policy, using the methods, theories, and concepts of moral philosophy. Course not open to seniors.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 006 (PHIL 006) Conduct and Character: An Introduction to Philosophy 4 Credits

How should we live our lives? How should we act? What kinds of persons should we be? What should we care about? These are among the central questions of philosophy because they are among the most central questions of human existence. This explores answers that have been proposed by thinkers throughout history and across cultures. Course not open to seniors.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 105 (PHIL 105) Ethics 4 Credits

Examination of right and wrong, good and bad, from classic sources such as Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant, Mill and Nietzsche.

ETH 106 (HMS 106, PHIL 106, REL 106) Bioethics and the Law 4 Credits

Students in this course will learn something about the foundations and (nontechnical) workings of the American system of justice, and will combine that understanding with a focus on various topics in bioethics, from the "right to die" to gene-patenting. A key point will be the understanding that, as science and medicine continually move forward, there are always new challenges to existing legal understanding. How should the law respond to new questions, e.g. inheritance rights of posthumously conceived children?

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 116 (HMS 116, PHIL 116, REL 116) Bioethics 4 Credits

Moral issues that arise in the context of health care and related biomedical fields in the United States today, examined in the light of the nature and foundation of moral rights and obligations. Topics include: confidentiality, informed consent, euthanasia, medical research and experimentation, genetics, and the distribution of health care.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 120 (HMS 120, SOAN 120) Values and Ethics of Community-Engaged Research 4 Credits

The many dimensions of community-engaged research and learning are explored, with special attention to ethical practices, values, research methods, and critical reflection. Experiential and service aspects of the course provide opportunities for students to build skills for social and community change, as well as build capacity for research and critical inquiry.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

ETH 149 (REL 149) Modern Islamic Ethics 4 Credits

This course will focus on developments in Islamic thinking and ethics that emerge from the modern encounter between Muslim societies and the West. We will discuss Islamic modernism and fundamentalism through short primary texts from a variety of modern Muslim thinkers.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 171 Independent Reading and Research 1-4 Credits

Independent study of selected topic designated and executed in close collaboration with a member of the Center for Ethics Program faculty. May be repeated for elective credit. Consent of program director required. Repeat status: May be repeated.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

ETH 191 Special Topics in Ethics 1-4 Credits

Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be crosslisted with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

ETH 205 (PHIL 205) Contemporary Ethics 4 Credits

Examination of significant questions addressed by contemporary moral philosophers. Topics vary, but might include: What is a good person? What kind of life is worth living? What moral issues are raised by gender, race, and class? Is morality relative or absolute? Is morality all that important?

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 206 (PHIL 206) Figures/Themes in Ethics 4 Credits

This seminar course will involve in-depth focus on a major figure in ethics (e.g., Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant, Mill, etc.) or on a theme such as relativism, free will, the intersection of religion and ethics, or war.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 216 (HMS 216, PHIL 216, REL 216) Research Ethics 4 Credits

Research with human and animal subjects carries with it a host of ethical and legal obligations. Topics include the history of human subjects research; ethical use of placebo studies; the ethics of research in developing countries; whether there is an ethical obligation to volunteer to be a research subject.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 226 (HMS 226, REL 226) From Black Death to Covid-19: Plague, Pandemic, Ethics and Religion 4 Credits

An investigation into the way religion and morality shape interpretations of plague and pandemics. Three specific pandemics are examined: the bubonic plague of the 14th century, the 1918 influenza pandemic, and the current global AIDS crisis. Moral issues provoked by institutional, political and social responses to pandemic disease are also considered.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 254 (ASIA 254, ES 254, REL 254) Buddhism and Ecology 4 Credits

Buddhism's intellectual, ethical, and spiritual resources are reexamined in light of contemporary environmental problems. Is Buddhism the most green of the major world religions? What are the moral implications of actions that affect the environment?

Attribute/Distribution: HU

ETH 271 Independent Reading and Research 1-4 Credits

Independent study of selected topics designated and executed in close collaboration with a member of the Center for Ethics Program faculty. May be repeated for elective credit. Consent of program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

ETH 291 Special Topics in Ethics 1-4 Credits

Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be crosslisted with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

ETH 373 Internship 1-3 Credits

Supervised work in Center for Ethics allows students across the university to bring critical perspectives on ethical issues into the campus community. This course may be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 6 credits. Prerequisites: one course in ethics and consent of the Center director.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

ETH 391 Special Topics in Ethics 1-4 Credits

Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be crosslisted with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.