PHIL3830 - Value Theory, Ethics, Socio-politics 3: Applied Ethics
Course Outline

Chris Falzon (Course Co-ordinator)
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Consultation hours: Tue 12-1

Brief Course Description
A systematic study of a major problem or major theme or major philosopher or group of philosophers, focused on value theory, ethics, socio-political philosophy.

Contact Hours
Lecture for 2 Hours per Week for the Full Term

Learning Materials/Texts

Course Objectives
Information not required in this case

Course Content
A systematic study of a major problem or problems (e.g. what are the foundations, if any, of ethics?), or major theme or themes (e.g. the nature and roles of values), or major philosopher or group of philosophers (e.g. the liberals), focused on value theory, ethics, socio-political philosophy and pursued through study of the relevant principal texts and analysis of the relevant history of critical commentary.
Assessment Items

For most topics assessment will be by essays, an initial minor essay (about 1500 words) due about mid-semester and worth about 30% of total assessment, and a major essay (about 3500 words) due about the close of semester and worth about 70% of total assessment. The minor essay is designed to assess the student’s grasp of basic concepts, familiarity with the relevant literature and ability to develop a focussed argued case, while the major essay requires extended application of these competencies to a suitable substantive topic. However, some topics will be examined in part through an examination, either a 1 to 1.5 hour examination in place of the minor essay, of the same value and aimed to examine the same competencies, or a 2 to 3 hour examination in place of the major essay, of the same value and designed to assess the same capacity to properly apply these competencies.

Assumed Knowledge
60 units of successfully completed courses

Callaghan
Campus
Timetable

PHIL3830
Value, Theory, Eth, Socio-pol 3
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 1 - 2010
Lecture Tuesday 16:00 - 18:00 [MC102]

IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity, honesty, and respect for knowledge, truth and ethical practices are fundamental to the business of the University. These principles are at the core of all academic endeavour in teaching, learning and research. Dishonest practices contravene academic values, compromise the integrity of research and devalue the quality of learning. To preserve the quality of learning for the individual and others, the University may impose severe sanctions on activities that undermine academic integrity. There are two major categories of academic dishonesty:

Academic fraud is a form of academic dishonesty that involves making a false representation to gain an unjust advantage. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it can include:

a) falsification of data;

b) using a substitute person to undertake, in full or part, an examination or other assessment item;

c) reusing one’s own work, or part thereof, that has been submitted previously and counted towards another course (without permission);

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c) reusing one’s own work, or part thereof, that has been submitted previously and counted towards another course (without permission);

d) making contact or colluding with another person, contrary to instructions, during an examination or

School of Humanities and Social Science
other assessment item;

e) bringing material or device(s) into an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item; and

f) making use of computer software or other material and device(s) during an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item.

g) contract cheating or having another writer compete for tender to produce an essay or assignment and then submitting the work as one's own.

Plagiarism is the presentation of the thoughts or works of another as one's own. University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

a) copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;

b) using another person's ideas without due acknowledgment;

c) collusion or working with others without permission, and presenting the resulting work as though it were completed independently.

Turnitin is an electronic text matching system. During assessing any assessment item the University may -

Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or

Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a text matching service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future checking).

Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

RE-MARKS AND MODERATIONS
Students can access the University's policy at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html

MARKS AND GRADES RELEASED DURING TERM

All marks and grades released during term are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING ASSESSMENT ITEMS

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations items must be submitted by the due date in the Course Outline unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension. Unapproved late submissions will be penalised in line with the University policy specified in Late Penalty (under student) at the link above.

Requests for Extensions of Time must be lodged no later than the due date of the item. This applies to students:

applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or

whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment.

Students must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, as outlined in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html

Note: different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

Special Consideration Requests must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.
Rescheduling Exam requests must be received no later than 10 working days prior the first date of the examination period.

Late applications may not be accepted. Students who cannot meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak firstly to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness. If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au. As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester. For more information on confidentiality and documentation visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability.

CHANGING YOUR ENROLMENT

Students enrolled after the census dates listed in the link below are liable for the full cost of their student contribution or fees for that term.

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/fees/censusdates.html

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of term. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of term will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of term, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of term must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online go to myHub: https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au

STUDENT INFORMATION & CONTACTS

Various services are offered by the Student Support Unit:
www.newcastle.edu.au/service/studentsupport/

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia. Student Hubs are located at:

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<tr>
<th>Callaghan Campus</th>
<th>Port Macquarie students</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Building</td>
<td>contact your program officer or</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunter Hub: Level 2, Student Services Centre</td>
<td><a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>City Precinct</td>
<td>Phone 4921 5000</td>
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<tr>
<td>City Hub &amp; Information Common, University House</td>
<td>Singapore students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Coast Campus (Ourimbah)</td>
<td>contact your PSB Program Executive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Hub: Opposite the Main Cafeteria</td>
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OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

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<th>Faculty Websites</th>
<th>Dean of Students Office</th>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/</a></td>
<td>The Dean of Students and Deputy Dean of</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/</a></td>
<td>Students work to ensure that all students</td>
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<td>receive fair and equitable treatment at the</td>
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<td>University. In doing this they provide</td>
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This course outline will not be altered after the second week of the term except under extenuating circumstances with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of the change.

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Lecture Outline

Week 1 - 2 March
Introduction; the nature of applied ethics
Reading: Tom Regan, ‘Meta-Ethics’
Tom Sorell, ‘Moral Theory and Moral Theories’.

Week 2 - 9 March
Utilitarianism and deontology
Reading: John Harris, ‘The Survival Lottery’

Week 3 - 16 March
Personhood; autonomy
Reading: Michael Tooley, ‘Abortion and Infanticide’
Mary Midgely, ‘Persons and Non-Persons’

Week 4 – 23 March
Rights; sanctity of life
Reading: Alan Gewirth 'Why Rights are Indispensable'

**Week 5 – 30 March**
Ethics of Care; feminist ethics
Reading: Carol Gilligan, In a Different Voice (extracts)
Susan Sherwin, 'Ethics, "Feminine Ethics", and Feminist Ethics'

**SEMESTER 1 RECESS (5-9 April)**

**Week 6 - 13 April**
Euthanasia; infanticide
Reading: James Rachels, 'Active and Passive Euthanasia'
Bonnie Steinbock, 'The Intentional Termination of Life'
[minor essay due]

**Week 7 – 20 April**
Abortion; traditional and alternative approaches
Reading: Joel Feinberg, 'Abortion'
Judith Thomson ‘A Defence of Abortion’

**Week 8 -27 April**
Informed consent
Reading: Gerald Dworkin, 'Autonomy and Informed Consent'
Alistair Campbell, 'Dependency Revisited: The Limits of Autonomy in Medical Ethics'

**Week 9 - 4 May**
Human research and experimentation
Reading: Tom Beauchamp and James Childress, ‘The Dual Roles of Physician and investigator’
Raanon Gillon, 'Research on the Vulnerable'

**Week 10 - 11 May**
Reproductive technology
Reading: Samuel Gorovitz, 'Progeny, Progress and Primrose Paths'
Paul Lauritzen, 'Commodification and Coercion'

**Week 11 - 18 May**
Surrogacy
Reading: Susan Dodds and Karen Jones, ‘Autonomy and Surrogacy’
Elizabeth Anderson, 'Is Women's Labor a Commodity?'

**Week 12 - 25 May**
Applied Ethics; general considerations
Reading: Annette Baier, 'Theory and Reflective Practices'

**Week 13 – 1 June**
No lecture
[major essay due]