

Ethics in Science and Technology

PHI 3626 0W61
3 Semester Hours Credit

Spring Term 2017
Don Jones

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A. Instructor

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Philosophy Email	phildept@ucf.edu
Philosophy Website	http://www.cah.ucf.edu/philosophy/

Office Hours

Teaching Schedule	Introduction to Philosophy	M, W, F 10:30-11:20 PSY 108
	Honors Introduction to Philosophy	M, W, F 11:30-12:20 BHC 131
	Ethics in Science	Web
<u>Office Hours</u>	Monday and Friday	9-10:15 AM and 12:30-1:45 PM,
	Thursday	9:30-1:45
	By appointment otherwise	

Optional Online Chat Room virtual office hours announced from week to week

B. Course Description in UCF Catalog

PR: COP 3502C or DIG 2000 or PHI 2647. Recent research in critical thinking applied to ethics in science and technology. Fall, Spring.

C. Course Texts

All readings for the course are online. Reading guidelines will be posted in the Pages area in folders entitled "Readings for Quiz One", "For Quiz Two", and so on.

D. Course Grade (Each 1/8 component will count as 20 possible points with a total possible of 160 points)

1/8 Exam One	Online multiple choice due midnight Friday 3 February (opens midnight Wednesday 1 February). One attempt. Covers Unit One.
1/8 Essay One	2-3 page essay due midnight Friday 10 February to Turnitin.com. Submit to course ID of 14353829 with password of Pinball1905
1/8 Exam Two	Online multiple choice due midnight Friday 3 March. Opens midnight Wednesday 1 March. One attempt. Covers Unit Two.
1/8 Essay Two	2-3 page essay due midnight Friday 10 March to Turnitin.com. Submit to course ID of 14353829 with password of Pinball1905
1/8 Exam Three	Online multiple choice due midnight Friday 14 April. Opens midnight Wednesday 12 April. One attempt. Covers Unit Three.
1/8 Essay Three	2-3 page essay due midnight 21 April to Turnitin.com. Submit to course ID of 14353829 with password of Pinball1905
1/8 Top 8 Online Quizzes	Top 8 of 10 online quizzes of 5-10 questions each posted midnight each Friday (except exam days) and closing the following Monday at midnight. Covers presentations in Pages area from that week plus readings for that week.
1/8 Comprehensive Final Exam	Online multiple choice due midnight Friday 28 April. Opens midnight Wednesday 26 April. Covers entire course <u>including material since Exam Three</u> . One attempt.

Plus-Minus. We will not use the plus minus grading system.

General Grading Criteria for Essays: Clarity of thesis, support for thesis, awareness of objections to thesis and its supporting reasoning, response to objections, overall logical coherence, and quality of writing.

Discussion Postings: Discussion postings are not required at any time in the course. Nevertheless, lots of optional discussion will take place in the Discussion area. You can get credit for Discussions postings that are related to course content. Points are allocated according to the guidelines at the end of this syllabus. Discussion points can be substituted for credit on the next upcoming essay (not for multiple choice). Each of the three essays is worth 20 possible points.

If you get 20 or more points from Discussion postings, then you automatically get full credit for the next upcoming essay and are exempt from writing it. I will take care of this automatically—you don't need to request it.

If you get fewer than 20 points, those can be applied to reduce the length of the upcoming essay. So, for example, if you got 10 points in discussion postings by the time the first essay was due, your essay length would only need to be one-half of 2-3 pages.

I will try to upgrade your Discussion posting points totals at least once week. At any time, if you would like to know your updated total and you don't see it posted online in the Grades section, just email me at donjones@ucf.edu and I can send it to you.

Warning: Please be very careful to avoid plagiarism in essays and in Discussion postings. In general, you are most welcome, indeed encouraged, to seek outside sources (written, online, or in-person) for material but must report the source, including page numbers. Paraphrases and direct quotations should be in quotation marks and footnoted. You are welcome to use an informal footnote style by inserting a brief reference inside parentheses in your text that refers to an item that you list in a bibliography at the end of your paper.

The consequences of plagiarism will be an "F" on the assignment, a possible "F" on the exam (if it occurs on an exam), a possible "F" in the course, and required recommendation to Student Conduct for further disciplinary action, including dismissal from UCF.

E. Calendar for Course Quizzes and Essays (When a date is given, it is to be understood as by midnight that day unless otherwise stated)

Monday 9 January Essay topics for Essay One posted in Pages area in folder entitled "Essay Topics for Essay One"

Monday 9 January	Readings for Unit One posted. Unit One runs to Exam One. Topics for week one posted.
Friday 13 January	Quiz One Posted. One Attempt. Topics for week two posted.
Monday 16 January Friday 20 January	Quiz One Closes. Quiz Two opens. One attempt. Topics for week three posted.
Monday 23 January Friday 27 January	Quiz Two Closes Quiz Three opens. One attempt. Topics for week four posted.
Monday 30 January Wednesday 1 February Friday 3 February	Quiz Three closes. Exam One opens. One attempt. Exam One Closes Topics for week five posted.
Friday 10 February	Essay One due to Turnitin.com at course ID of 14353829 with password of Pinball1905. Topics for Essay Two posted in Pages area in folder entitled "Essay Topics for Essay Two" Essay Two due Friday 10 March. Quiz Four opens. Topics for week six posted.
.Friday 17 February	Quiz Five opens. One attempt. Topics for week seven posted.
Monday 20 February Friday 24 February	Quiz Five closes. One attempt. Quiz Six opens. Topics for week eight posted.
Monday 27 February Wednesday 1 March Friday 3 March	Quiz Six closes. One attempt. Exam Two opens. One attempt. Exam Two closes. One attempt. Topics for week nine posted.
Friday 10 March	Essay Two due to Turnitin.com at course ID of 14353829 with password of Pinball1905. Topics for week ten after Spring Break posted. Topics for Essay Three posted. Due Friday 21 April.
13-18 March	Spring Break
Wednesday 22 March	Withdrawal Date
Friday 24 March	Quiz Seven opens. One attempt. Topics for week eleven posted in folder in Pages area.
Monday 26 March Friday 30 March	Quiz Seven closes. One attempt. Quiz Eight opens. One attempt. Topics for week twelve posted.
Monday 3 April Friday 7 April	Quiz Eight closes. One attempt. Quiz Nine opens. One attempt. Topics for week thirteen posted.
Monday 10 April Wednesday 12 April Friday 14 April	Quiz Nine closes. One attempt. Exam Three opens. One attempt. Exam Three closes. Topics for week fourteen posted.

Friday 21 April	Essay Three due to Turnitin.com at course ID of 14353829 with password of Pinball1905. Quiz Ten opens. One attempt Topics for week 15 posted.
Monday 24 April	Quiz Ten closes. One attempt. Last Day of Classes.
Wednesday 26 April Friday 28 April	Comprehensive Final Exam opens. Comprehensive Final Exam closes.

F. Comments on Course Quizzes and Essays

Review Sheets: For each quiz, review sheets will be posted online in a folder in the Pages area with that quiz's name.

Guidelines for Essays: Please see the handout on Guidelines for Essays in the Pages area.

Topics for Essays: Please see the handouts on Topics for Essays in the Pages area.

Turnitin.com: Essays are to be submitted to Turnitin.com at course ID of 14353829 with password of Pinball1905.

G. Course Reading Pages

Reading pages for each unit will be posted online in the Pages area in a folder named for the upcoming Unit such as "Unit One Readings".

H. Course Calendar

The main calendar for the course is the individual quiz and essay dates which are listed in Section E, above. Any changes in calendar or dates will be announced in the Announcements area of the course website and sent through email.

I. Online Requirements

The course requires repeated access to the course website to retrieve readings, to participate in discussions if you choose to do so, to view power point slides, to view videos, and for a variety of other activities, including online presentations for those who choose to do them.

If you do not see the course on your Webcourses list, or have other difficulties, please email me at donjones@ucf.edu.

Posting comments in the Discussion area is not required at any time in the course, nor is attending optional chat rooms (there are no required chat rooms). Nevertheless, considerable credit can be earned toward an upcoming required essay for posting in online discussions of the material of the course. I have listed below how points can be earned. I will endeavor to update one's postings points totals once a week, in the best of weeks twice, so you can determine where you stand. My main way to apply postings points is toward an essay for the upcoming exam. Please see the handout on postings points for more information.

I will check Discussion postings through Turnitin.com Please make sure you follow the same documentation guidelines for Discussion postings as for required essays. You are welcome to use sources, but you must use quotations marks, page numbers in sources, and other parts of standard documentation.

J. How We Proceed

We will start with contemporary discussions and use those to branch back into representative philosophers. For each topic we will try to combine both contemporary and historic examples.

I tend to put a lot of optional material into the Discussion area of the course. My normal week is to post some guidelines in an area for the material of that week, note some key points that might need expansion, hope that you read the material, and invite questions or discussion of the material. I also tend to put quite a few topics up for discussion just because they seem

interesting to me or because I think some of you might be interested. You never need to participate in these discussions, though you are invited to do so. And, as far as testing goes, what you are to know for exam questions will be listed and duly noted in the posted Guidelines for Exams listed in the Pages area, so you won't have to wonder.

Lists of Readings, Guidelines for Exams, Postings Points Guidelines, Weekly Notes, and Suggested Independent Tracks will normally occur in the Pages area of the course website.

Practice Quizzes: Optional practice quizzes with practice multiple choice questions will occur in the Quizzes area. They do not show up in the Assignments area unless they are a required quiz. I urge you to take the practice quizzes for a given quiz before taking the required quiz.

K. Turnitin.com

Take-home essays are to be submitted to Turnitin.com. Please use at course ID of 14353829 with password of Pinball1905.

I will check Discussion postings through Turnitin.com Please make sure you follow the same guidelines for Discussion postings as for normal essays. You are welcome to use sources, but you must use quotations marks, page numbers in sources, and other parts of standard documentation.

L. POSTINGS CREDIT

1. Postings Not Required

First, let me remind you that postings on the course website are not required. The only required activities in this course are the Exams. So, if you like, you can just ignore the stuff below. Of course, you can post comments on the website without regard to whether you get credit for doing so. Regardless, you might want to know that you can get credit for having done so.

One can build up course credit from postings. One essay of 2-3 pages is worth 20 points. The points you accumulate on Discussion postings can count toward that essay.

2. Postings Can Count in Place of an Essay.

Postings on the course website (or combinations of postings) can count in place of one upcoming required essay, but never in place of the multiple choice quizzes. So, if you got 20 points in the postings area, you can assume full credit on your next required essay.

3. Postings Points Posted

We will have a column for postings points. I will try to update that once a week (at least Sunday), if not more frequently, so that you can know how you stand with respect to the points earned to be used in place of essays for the next upcoming exam.

4. Grading Guidelines for Optional Postings Points

I will endeavor to use the following guidelines for assigning points for postings. I will keep a written record of these assignments of points so that at any given moment you can know why you got the points you got (or failed to get):

a. General Guideline:

The paradigm example of a full credit (20 points) posting (or sequence of postings), corresponding to full credit on the next upcoming required essay, would be a posting (or sequence of postings) with a clear thesis that was well supported with good reasons, was as close to valid as natural language arguments can be, showed an awareness of at least one objection either to the supporting reasoning or to the validity of the argument, responded to that objection, and showed overall logical coherence.

b. Specific Guidelines (with rough range of possible points in parenthesis):

- 1) Distinction that clarifies a line of reasoning or application (4-8 points)

- 2) Analogy that clarifies or extends a line of thought (4-12 points)
- 3) Reconceptualization of some problem that opens up a new way of understanding it (4-16 points)
- 4) Neat little example that shows something relevant to some point (4-8 points)
- 5) Counter example to some thesis, argument, or supporting reason (4-8 points)
- 6) Application of some material that we are studying that shows understanding and relevance of the material (1-16 points, depending upon its development and importance)
- 7) Visual, auditory, or other multimedia illustration of some point in the course (6-48 points)
- 8) And lots of other neat stuff that you can do (1-48 points)