



El Camino College
 COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

Subject:	PHIL
Course Number:	120
Descriptive Title:	Ethics, Law and Society
Course Disciplines:	Philosophy
Division:	Behavioral and Social Sciences
Department:	Philosophy
Catalog Description:	In this course, the relationship between the various facets of moral and legal thinking is analyzed. Philosophical issues such as, justification for the legal enforcement of morality, the legitimacy of an international system of law, the relationship between new technologies, and the role of law are examined. The concepts of individual and international rights and obligations will be discussed.
Prerequisite:	
Co-requisite:	
Recommended Preparation:	Eligibility for English 1A
Enrollment Limitation:	
Course Length:	Full Term
Hours Lecture (per week):	3
Hours Laboratory (per week):	0
Outside Study Hours:	6
Total Hours:	54
Course Units:	3
Grading Method:	Letter Grade only
Credit Status:	Credit, degree applicable
Transfer CSU:	Yes
Effective Date:	Prior to July 1992
Transfer UC:	Yes
Effective Date:	Prior to July 1992
General Education ECC:	Area 3 - Humanities
Term:	
Other:	Approved
CSU GE:	Area C2 - Arts and Humanities - Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages other than English
Term:	
Other:	Approved
IGETC:	Area 3B - Humanities
Term:	
Other:	Approved

<p>Student Learning Outcomes:</p>	<p>SLO #1 Primary Moral Theories Students will be able to identify the primary moral theories, be able to distinguish the major differences between the theories, and be able to evaluate the general strengths and weaknesses of each theory.</p> <p>SLO #2 Major Legal Issues Students will be able to identify some of the major legal issues that have confronted our society, with particular attention to contemporary issues, and they will be able to explain the various competing legal theories that have been used to resolve those issues.</p> <p>SLO #3 Analyzing Contemporary Issues Students will be able to critically analyze contemporary moral and legal issues by applying both moral and legal theories, and they will be able to recognize and critically evaluate the major arguments of each side, demonstrating proficiency in the construction of their own arguments for a position.</p>
<p>Course Objectives:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compare and contrast different theories of law utilizing philosophers from the Greeks to modern time. 2. Examine and explain the relationship of jurisprudence to the four major areas of philosophy, Metaphysics, Epistemology, Axiology, and Logic. 3. Examine and explain the relationship of jurisprudence to the four major areas of philosophy, Metaphysics, Epistemology, Axiology, and Logic. 4. Describe the distinction between censorship and regulation of speech and conduct. 5. Identify and analyze theories of law referenced in Supreme Court cases, such as legal positivism and normative jurisprudence. 6. Analyze and critically evaluate the philosophical perspectives on biomedical issues and their impact on law. 7. Compare and contrast various concepts in the legal enforcement of morality. 8. Identify and discuss permissive theories of law with those that are more restrictive over the social life of the individual. 9. Assess international law documents and their relationship to the laws of sovereign states, morality and individual responsibility. 10. Identify and analyze contemporary approaches to law such as feminism and law, critical race theory and economics and law. 11. Explain and identify the major schools of jurisprudence as they are utilized in legal opinions and essays. 12. Critically evaluate issues such as the sale of body parts, physician-assisted suicide and same-sex marriage, and analyze what man-made law's response to them ought to be.
<p>Major Topics:</p>	<p>I. The Purpose of the Law (6 hours, lecture)</p> <p>A. Selected Justifications for the Rule of Law</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peace 2. Morality 3. Natural Rights 4. Common Good 5. Good of Humanity 6. Freedom 7. Justice

II. Philosophers and their Theories (9 hours, lecture)

- A. The Greeks
 - 1. Plato
 - 2. Aristotle
- B. The Romans
 - 1. Cicero
- C. Medieval Period
 - 1. Aquinas
- D. Modern Period
 - 1. Locke
 - 2. Hobbes
 - 3. Bentham
 - 4. John Stuart Mill
 - 5. Kant
 - 6. Rawls

III. The Nature of Law (12 hours, lecture)

- A. Moral and Legal Language
- B. Legal Positivism
 - 1. Sociological Jurisprudence
 - a. Legal Realism
 - 2. Historical Jurisprudence
 - a. Formalism
- C. Normative Jurisprudence
 - 1. Divine School
 - 2. Philosophical School
- D. Contemporary Approaches to Law
 - 1. Critical Race Theory
 - 2. Feminism and Law
 - 3. Economics and Law

IV. The Legal Enforcement of Morality (9 hours, lecture)

- A. John Stuart Mill on Liberty
- B. Lord Patrick Devlin: The Legal Enforcement of Morality
- C. H.L.A. Hart
- D. Ronald Dworkin on Paternalism

V. Theoretical Issues in the Law (9 hours, lecture)

- A. Privacy and Autonomy
- B. International Law and Morality
- C. Rights Theory

VI. Applied Issues and the Law (9 hours, lecture)

- A. Sale of Human Organs
- B. The Use and Regulation of Drones
- C. Physician-Assisted Suicide
- D. Abortion

	E. Gene Editing F. Other Current Issues: Privacy Versus National Security
Total Lecture Hours:	54
Total Laboratory Hours:	0
Total Hours:	54
Primary Method of Evaluation	1) Substantial writing assignments
Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation:	In the text, various theories regarding individual rights are presented and discussed. In a three- to five-page essay, describe and analyze which of these theories supports your position on the issue of the right to die.
Critical Thinking Assignment 1:	The Francis Crick Institute in Great Britain has begun genetically engineering human embryos. The "gene editing" process is focused on disease prevention. Should the law in the United States prohibit or permit such practices? Why? In a twelve- to fifteen-page paper address the following topics in formulating your position: the purpose/purposes to be achieved by the law or policy you favor, the impact of legal positivism or normative jurisprudence on the position you hold, the relationship of privacy to your topic and the role of contemporary perspectives in law and their relations to your position.
Critical Thinking Assignment 2:	Should practices for drone use be voluntary or should Congress approve a broad consumer privacy bill limiting where and when drones can be flown and how they can be used? In a twelve- to fifteen-page paper utilize the philosophical and legal theories we have discussed in class. Present one argument against the position you have taken and your response to it.
Other Evaluation Methods:	Essay Exams, Reading Reports, Term or Other Papers, Written Homework
If Other:	Complete writing assignments
Instructional Methods:	Discussion, Group Activities, Lecture, Multimedia presentations
If other:	
Work Outside of Class	Answer questions, Required reading, Study, Written work (such as essay/composition/report/analysis/research)
If Other:	
Up-To-Date Representative Textbooks:	David M. Adams. <u>Philosophical Problems in the Law</u> . 5th ed. Cengage Learning, 2013.
Alternative Textbooks:	
Required Supplementary Readings:	
Other Required Materials:	
Requisite	
Category	
Requisite course:	
Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course	

objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite:	
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Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). if applicable	<p>Students need to have effective reading skills to understand and interpret information provided in their textbooks.</p> <p>ENGL A -Read and apply critical thinking skills to college-level expository prose for the purposes of writing and discussion.</p> <p>ENGL 84 -Select and employ reading strategies to interpret the content of a college-level textbook, with special focus on constructing a thesis statement and providing valid support.</p> <p>Writing is required for essay questions and papers assigned.</p> <p>ENGL 84 -Identify an implied main idea (thesis), and support with major and minor details, from a longer text or novel.</p> <p>ENGL A -Apply appropriate strategies in the writing process including prewriting, composing, revising, and editing techniques</p>
Enrollment Limitations and Category:	
Enrollment Limitations Impact:	
Course Created by:	Joan Thureson
Date:	07/27/1976
Last Reviewed and/or Revised by:	James Healy
Last Board Approval Date:	05/16/2016