

**PHIL-111: Ethics
(Bernd Buldt, F06)**

Course Description

Contact information

Office: NF130B

Office hours: Mo–Fr, 9:00–10:00 AM, or by appointment

Phone: (260) 481-6091

E-mail: buldtb@ipfw.edu (I don't reply to e-mails over the weekend)

Course description

To understand, examine, and critically assess the major theories of ethics and morality (in the Western tradition).

Course objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be expected to (transferable skills):

- Develop and improve critical reading and writing skills.
- Think and write clearly about ethical and moral issues.

Students are expected in particular to:

- Identify and discuss different ethical theories and examine problems in their light.
- Integrate philosophical perspectives on morality into an examination of values and beliefs they themselves or others may hold.
- Discuss the role of (different kinds of) reasoning in moral decision-making.

Course text

Lawrence M Hinman: *Ethics. A Pluralistic Approach to Moral Theory*, (2nd or 3rd edition), Fort Worth: Harcourt, 1994.

Attendance

All class sessions take place in KT150. Attendance is required for a successful completion of the course; if you can't attend, you must notify me before class starts. Missing class three times means you can't receive a better grade than „D“; missing class five times means you'll receive the grade „F“; two tardiness or early departure equal one unexcused absence. That attendance is required also means that you are responsible for all material covered in class including handouts, changes in deadlines, and announcements generally.

Class participation

Class participation is expected of and from everyone as this is a highly exchange- oriented class. The better you prepare the assigned text, the more you'll benefit from class room discussion. Use of cell phones in class is not permitted.

Grading policies

Students will have to write and submit four (out of six) short essays; see the „syllabus“ for the essays' due dates. Written homework assignments will be uploaded at least a week before the

due date of the essay. No late assignments will be accepted. Extensions will be given only in extraordinary circumstances, e.g., serious illness or family emergency, and only before the due date of the assignment. If you think you may need an extension contact the instructor as soon as possible by e-mail or phone.

In order to be accepted, every essay must be type written, double-spaced, multiple pages stapled and consecutively numbered, with the student's name on the top right of the first page. No e-mail attachment will be accepted, unless the student has secured permission to do so in advance.

All written work must be your own. If you use someone else's words or ideas, these sources must be appropriately cited. Plagiarism will result in an 'F' in this class and possibly further disciplinary action by the university.

At the end of the course, there will be a 20 min oral examination.

Course work counts towards the final grade as follows:

Class participation	20%
Each essay	15%
Final exam	20%

Scale for final grade

100%–97%	A+	Excellent
96%–93%	A	
92%–89%	A-	
88%–85%	B+	Good
84%–81%	B	
80%–77%	B-	
76%–73%	C+	Adequate
72%–69%	C	
68%–65%	C-	
64%–61%	D+	Weak
60%–57%	D	
56%–53%	D-	
below 53%	F	Failure

Remark

Please, remember that your academic success and your personal well-being are important to me. Do not hesitate to contact me, whenever you feel like doing so or something is on your mind.