PHIL 316: Professional Ethics (Section 9)
(Fall 2015)

Time: Tues. and Thurs. 9.30 to 10.45 am
Class Location: HLG 505
Instructor: Istvan S. N. Berkeley, Ph.D.
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Class Web Page: http://www.ucs.louisiana.edu/~isb9112/dept/phil316/
Office Hours: Mon. and Wed. 1pm to 4pm, or by appointment.
Text: Martin, C., Vaught, W. and Solomon, R. (Eds.), (2010), Ethics Across The Professions: A Reader For Professional Ethics, Oxford University Press. Note” Unless otherwise stated, all readings are from this text.

Grading:  
Quizzes  10%
Exam I  15%
Exam II  15%
On-line Louisiana State Ethics Course  5%
Final Paper  25%
Class Participation  10%
Final Examination  20%

Cheating and Plagiarism: Cheating and plagiarism are very serious academic offenses. Students should ensure that they are familiar with the definitions regarding these matters which prevail at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Any cases of cheating or plagiarism will be judged by these standards and penalties will be very harsh indeed. Minimum penalty for either cheating or plagiarism is an automatic grade of F in the class. In case of doubt, please contact the instructor for clarification, prior to engaging in any potentially dubious behavior. You will also be required to submit an electronic version of your final paper on Moodle, so that it can be checked by the Turnitin.com anti-plagiarism software. This software checks your text against many sources, including on-line sources. If you fail to use quotations marks, or citation properly, then you will be considered to be plagiarizing.

Note on Readings: All readings must be completed before the first class day of each week. Failure to complete the readings will seriously hamper your ability to understand and participate in class. Although some weeks, it may appear that there is a lot of readings, they are short. The reading load of this class has been designed to be comparable with other classes at the 300 level. Thus, there are neither good reasons, nor good excuses for not having done the readings and being prepared for class.

• Policy on cell phones in class.
• Please note: All examination must be written neatly and in pen. Pencils may not be used under any circumstances.
• Quizzes: During the semester, there will also be a number of short quizzes. These will not be announced ahead of time and will take place in class. If you are not present in class, then you will get zero for a quiz. A quiz will consist of a short question. You will be required to answer the question on a standard note card. For this reason, you need to make sure that you have note
cards with you at every class.

- **Study Guide:** The study guide for this class will consist of the notes you take in class and the notes you take when doing the readings. No other study guide will be offered.

- **Exams:** All exams are comprehensive. You will be expected to know all the material covered in the course, up to the time of the exam.

- **Final Research Papers:** Your final research papers must be BOTH brought to class in a printed format, at the very beginning of class on the due day and also submitted on Moodle prior to the due date and time. Failure to do both will result in a grade of zero on the paper.

- **Electronic Devices in Class:** No electronic devices of any kind are permitted in the class room. This includes, but is not limited to, laptop computers, notebook computers, iPads, iPods, PDAs, and cell phones. Notes should be taken with pen and paper. However, students with impairments, or disabilities will be accommodated. Please consult the instructor. If you are interested in why this policy is in place, please see:

**Useful General Links**

- **Help with writing a philosophy paper.**
  - [How to write a philosophy paper](#), by Istvan S. N. Berkeley, Ph.D.

- **Tips on Note Taking**
  - [Some Notes on Note Taking](#)

- **How to Cite Correctly**
  - [The Citation Machine](#) is a useful resource for help with citations in papers. You should use it. There is no excuse for not citing correctly in your papers. You should use the APA citation convention.

- **To Learn More about a Philosophical Topic**
  - [The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy](#)

**Topics and Readings**

**Week 1**

Aug. 25 – 27

- **Philosophy, Ethics and Reasoning I**
  - **Reading**
  - [Reason and Judgment, A Primer](#) (On-line)

**Week 2**

Sept. 1 – 3

- **Philosophy, Ethics and Reasoning II**
  - **Readings**
    - [Reason and Judgment, A Primer, continued](#)
    - Also strongly recommended (but not required) Stephen's [Guide to the Logical Fallacies](#) (On-line)
    - Sept. 3rd, In Class debate.
Week 3
Sept. 8 – 10
• **What Is a Professional?**
  • **Readings:**
    • Introduction, pp. 1-2.
    • The Professions, pp. 9-12,
    • Professional Responsibility: Just Following The Rules?, pp. 12-19,
    • What Is Good Leadership?, pp. 22-27,
    • Cases, pp. 47-51.

Week 4
Sept. 15 – 17
• **How to Be Ethical (The Foundations of Ethical Theory), I**
  • **Readings:**
    • Introduction, pp. 52-54,
    • [Aristotle] On The Good Life, pp. 54-57,
    • [Plato] The Ring of Gyges, pp. 58-60

Week 5
Sept. 22 – 24
• **How to Be Ethical (The Foundations of Ethical Theory), II**
  • **Readings:**
    • [Kant] Fundamental Principles of the Metaphysics of Morals, pp. 69-76
    • [Mill] Utilitarianism, pp. 82-86
    • Cases, pp. 93-95.

Week 6
Sept. 29 – Exam I (Bring a Blue Book!)
Oct. 1 – *Fall Break, No class. Grades First Grades Due.*

Week 7
Oct. 6 – 8
• **Professional Duties, Clients Rights**
  • **Readings:**
    • Introduction, pp. 96-97,
    • The Professional-Client Relationship, pp. 97-105,
    • The Ethics of Sales, pp. 148-154,
    • Cases, pp. 155-160.
    • *N.B. Oct. 8th is the last day to drop a class with a grade of 'W'.*

Week 8
Oct. 13 – 15
• **Truth, Lies and Deception**
  • **Readings**
    • Introduction, pp. 161-162,
    • Is It Ever Right to Lie?, pp. 162-165,
    • Professional Morality and the Duty of Veracity, pp. 166-175,
• Truth in the Marketplace, pp. 213-221,
• Cases, pp. 222-225.

**Week 9**
Oct. 20 – 22

• **Louisiana State Ethics Law**
  • *Oct. 22nd: On-line Louisiana State Ethics Course must be complete, see* [http://www.ucb.louisiana.edu/~isb9112/dept/phil316/LAethics.html](http://www.ucb.louisiana.edu/~isb9112/dept/phil316/LAethics.html)

**Week 10**
Oct. 27 – 29

• **Privacy, Confidentiality, Secrecy and Trust**
  • *Readings:*
    • Introduction, pp. 226-227,
    • Confidentiality Across the Professions, pp. 227-234,
    • The Limits of Confidentiality, pp. 243-252,
    • Defining Secrecy – Some Critical Distinctions, pp. 266-269,
    • Cases 5.2 and 5.4, pp. 278-279 and p. 282.
  • *Oct. 29th: Second Grades First Grades Due.*

**Week 11**
Nov. 3 **Exam II** (Bring a blue book)

5 **Guest Lecture**

**Week 12**
Nov. 10 – 12

• **Whistle-Blowing and Self-Regulation**
  • *Readings:*
    • Introduction, pp. 283-284,
    • Whistle-Blowing and Professional Responsibility, pp. 284-288,
    • Some Paradoxes of Whistle-Blowing, pp. 289-294,
    • Ruthlessness in Public Life, pp. 311-316,
    • Politics and Moral Character, pp. 318-325
    • Cases 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4, pp. 327-340.

**Week 13**
Nov. 17 – 19

• **Professionalism, Justice and Social Welfare I**
  • *Readings:*
    • Introduction, pp. 342-343,
    • Justice as Fairness, pp. 347-349,
    • Rich and Poor, pp. 349-351,
    • What Should a Billionaire Give?, pp. 352-359
    • A National Health Program for the US, pp. 373-382,
    • Social Responsibility and Economic Efficiency, pp. 382-386,
    • Cases 7.1 and 7.3, pp. 386-390 and pp. 392-393.
  • *Nov. 19th: Third Grades First Grades Due.*
Week 14
Nov. 24 – 26
  • Professionalism, Justice and Social Welfare II
  • Nov. 26th: Thanksgiving, no class.

Week 15
Dec. 1 – 3
  • Review
  • Dec. 3rd: Last Class

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES: A map of this floor is posted near the elevator marking the evacuation route and the Designated Rescue Area. This is an area where emergency service personnel will go first to look for individuals who need assistance in exiting the building. Students who may need assistance in exiting should identify themselves to the teaching faculty.