

Ethics and Society

Spring 2012

Prof. Maumus

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Office Hours: informally immediately before/after class, and by appointment

Course description:

This class is a critical examination of our ethical obligations to one another and to society as a whole. Issues to be discussed include cultural relativism, capital punishment, terrorism and torture, welfare and social justice, and environmentalism.

Unless otherwise noted all readings will be found in the required text (Olen, Van Camp, & Barry, *Applying Ethics: 9th Ed.*) which may be picked from 1311 James.

Requirements and Grading Schema:

Preparation/Participation 15%

Quizzes/In-Class Assignments. 25%

Midterm Exam 30%

Final Exam 30%

NOTE: Absences from scheduled quizzes and exams require written excuse (*e.g.*, doctor's note) or prior approval from instructor. A make-up will not be administered otherwise.

Re: Participation Grade: The success of this class relies upon your informed participation. You should be prepared to discuss the assigned readings by the date indicated on the syllabus. *Evident lack of preparation will negatively affect your final grade, while active participation will always improve it.* For purposes of class discussion of the assigned readings **you are required to bring your text to EVERY class.**

First Reading Assignment: Chapter 2: "Good Reasoning" pp. 55-60