



EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2004
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A. Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL** Effective Date: **SEPTEMBER 2004**

B. Department / Program Area: **PHILOSOPHY & HUMANITIES**
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Revision New Course

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **C, H**

Date of Previous Revision: **DECEMBER 1981**
 Date of Current Revision: **APRIL 2004**

C: **PHIL 1102** D: **VALUES AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES** E: **3**

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
F: Calendar Description:	How can we develop answers to questions of value in our com q	

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, the successful student should be able to:

1. Think in a meaningful way about some of the major contemporary ethical issues.
2. Learn how to develop personal philosophical positions in relation to some of these issues.
3. Examine some contemporary theorizing about these issues by moral philosophers who have wrestled with them and attempted to formulate solutions in a rational and critical manner.
4. Become familiar with some of the fundamental philosophical problems which underlie these issues, through the reading of classical and modern philosophical theories.
5. Recognize that critical thinking is imperative to handle the complexities inherent in modern moral issues and that simple answers and thoughtless actions are dangerous responses.

N: Course Content:

1. The course will primarily involve an examination of current ethical issues which are of general interest to the student. For example:
 - a) the morality of taking human life: abortion, euthanasia, suicide, capital punishment, war;
 - b) the relation of morality to the law: the “moral majority”, paternalism, civil libertarianism, pornography, drugs, censorship;
 - c) the just or unjust treatment of sentient beings, e.g., racism, sexism, affirmative action, animal

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students

Sample Texts (one of the following):

Olen, J., & Barry, V. Applying Ethics. (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2000)

Singer, Peter. Practical Ethics. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999)

Regan, Tom. Matters of Life and Death. (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1988)