

PHIL 2625 - Introduction to Professional Ethics

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 10, CRN 40098,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Arnold Smith

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Adjunct Professor

Instructor Professional Qualifications: Your instructor holds a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy and History (1996) as well as a Master's degree in Philosophy (1999) from Kent State University. They were also awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 2010 and a Bhakti Sastri in 2014. They have published the ethics textbook, *The Moral World*, (Cognella, 2014; 2024), as well as articles for *Philosophy Now* and *Back to Godhead*, and presented papers at several conferences. Your instructor has 27 years of teaching experience.

Instructor Office Location: DeBartolo Hall, 407

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-3448

Course Description

2625. Introduction to Professional Ethics. An examination of the ideals and virtues central to professionalism; study of selected codes of professional ethics and their roots in classical ethical traditions; and analysis of selected ethical issues and problems in a variety of professions. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Ethical Issues in Professional Life	Callahan	9780195050264

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Day	Date	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
Tue	8/25		Introduction to the Course	
Thu	8/27	Aristotle and Bentham Powerpoint in Blackboard	Aristotle's Virtue Ethics & Bentham's Utilitarianism	Take good notes. You will be using these five ethicist's theories throughout the course.
Tue	9/1	Kant Powerpoint in Blackboard	Kant's Deontology	Take good notes on the lecture
Thu	9/3	Habermas Powerpoint in Blackboard	Habermas' Discourse Ethics	Take good notes on the lecture
Tue	9/8	Rand Powerpoint in Blackboard	Rand's Egoist Ethics	Take good notes on the lecture
Thu	9/10		Discussion Example and Instruction	Explanation of Discussion, example, as well as meeting with groups
Tue	9/15	Callahan, Chapter 3	Occupational and Ordinary Morality	Take good notes
Thu	9/17	Callahan, Chapter 4	Professionals and Clients	Take good notes
Tue	9/22	Case 1: Zealous Advocacy and Cross Examining the Truthful Witness, p. 84 Case 2: Police and Paternalism, p. 120	Case 1 and 2 Presentation	Listen to group and be prepared to offer your thoughts, comments and questions
Thu	9/24		Exam I Review	
Tue	9/29		Exam I	
Thu	10/1	Callahan, Chapter 5	Paternalistic and Non-Paternalistic Deception	Take good notes



Tue	10/6	Case 3: The Potent Placebo, p. 167 Case 4: Hiring the Ex-Con, p. 169	Case 3 and 4 Presentation	Listen to group and be prepared to offer your comments, thoughts and questions
Thu	10/8	Callahan, Chapter 6	Informed Consent	Take good notes
Tue	10/13	Case 5: Back from the Dead, p.202 Case 6: Psychosurgery for a Sexual Offender, p.202	Case 5 and 6 Presentation	Listen to groups and be prepared to offer comments, thoughts and questions
Thu	10/15	Callahan, Chapter 7	Privacy and Confidentiality	Take good notes
Tue	10/20	Case 7: Tearoom Trade, p.256 Case 8: Protecting the Child Abuser, p. 257	Case 7 and 8 Presentation	Listen to groups and be prepared to offer thoughts, comments and questions
Thu	10/22	Callahan, Chapter 8	Individual and Collective Responsibility	Take good notes
Tue	10/27	Case 9: The Ford Pinto, p. 296	Case 9 Presentation Exam II Review	Listen to groups and be prepared to offer thoughts, comments and questions Take notes on review
Thu	10/29		Exam II	
Tue	11/3	Callahan, Chapter 9	Social Responsibility and Justice	Take good notes
Thu	11/5	Case 10: Leaking an Investigatory Report, p. 341 Case 11: Space Shuttle Challenger, p.341	Case 10 and 11 Presentation	Listen to groups and be prepared to offer comments, thoughts and questions
Tue	11/10	Callahan, Chapter 10 Blackboard article	Social Responsibility and Professional Dissent	Take good notes
Thu	11/12	Case 12: Preferential Hiring, p. 382 Case 13: Care for the Uninsured, p. 383	Case 12 and 13 Presentation	Listen to groups and be prepared to offer thoughts, comments and questions
Tue	11/17	Callahan, Chapter 11	Character Regulation and Training	Take good notes
Thu	11/19	Case 14: Virtue in the Corporation, 434 Case 15: The Loyal Agent Falters, p.436	Case 14 and 15 Presentation	Listen to groups and be prepared to offer comments, thoughts, and questions
Tue	11/24		Business Ethics on the International Scene	Take good notes
Thu	11/26		Thanksgiving	NO CLASS
Tue	12/1		Catch up and Conversation	
Thu	12/3		Exam III Review	
Tue	12/8		FINAL EXAM (Exam III)	8-10 am

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.