

PL/TH 088 05
Prof. Eileen Sweeney
Philosophy Department

Person and Social Responsibility
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Class Times and Places: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00-10:15 (Carney 002)
Discussion Sections (Beginning Sept. 15): Tuesday 12-12:50 (Carney 308)
Thursday, 3-3:50 (Carney 308)
Office Hours: Tuesday 3:30-5, Thursday 2-3 and by appt.

The readings for both semesters consists of classic texts of the Western Tradition - scripture, philosophy, drama, and fiction, combined with some contemporary discussions of ethics. The assumption is that these texts, whether ancient or contemporary, can speak to the search for meaning, justice, and community that characterizes your search and that of the people you will meet outside this classroom.

This course consists of two components, the classroom and the field. 60% of your grade for the semester will be the result of your classwork and 40% from your community service. A failing grade in either component of the class will result in a failing grade for the whole course. The grade for your service will be submitted to me by your supervisor at the end of the semester. It will be based on the terms of the learning work-agreement worked out between you and your supervisor.

Requirements:

Class/discussion attendance and participation 10%
Journal/writing assignments 15%
2 exams 20% each
Final exam 30%

Required Texts:

Leo Tolstoy, *The Death of Ivan Ilych*
Plato, *Apology, Gorgias*
Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*
Euripides, *Hecuba*
The New Oxford Annotated Bible
Blaise Pascal, *Pensées*
Charles Taylor, *The Ethics of Authenticity*

Reading Assignments:

Sept. 8: Introduction
Sept. 10: Tolstoy, *The Death of Ivan Ilych*
Sept. 15: Plato, *Apology*
Sept. 17: Plato, *Gorgias*
Sept. 22: Plato, *Gorgias*
Sept. 24: Plato, *Gorgias*

Sept. 29: Euripides, *Hecuba*

Oct 1: Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, Book I, ch, 1-7

Oct 6: *Ethics*, Bk. I, ch 8-13, Bk. X, ch. 6-8

Oct. 8: *Ethics*, Bk II (all), Bk. III, ch. 1, 5

Oct. 13: *Ethics*, Bk. VIII, ch 1-8, 13-14; Bk. IX, ch. 4, 8-9

Oct. 15: Review; discussion

Oct. 20: EXAM

Oct. 22: Genesis, chs. 1-4, 12-22

Oct 27: Genesis, chs. 37-45

Oct. 29: Job, chs. 1-17

Nov 3: Job, chs. 38-42

Nov 5: Romans, chs. 1-8

Nov 10: I Corinthians

Nov 12: Pascal, *Pensées*

Nov 17: Pascal, *Pensées*

Nov. 19: Review, Discussion

Nov. 24: EXAM

Nov. 26: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Dec 1: Taylor, *Ethics of Authenticity*

Dec 3: Taylor, *Ethics of Authenticity*

Dec 8: Taylor, *Ethics of Authenticity*

Dec 10: Review; Discussion

Dec 18: Take-home final due