

Phil 61 MORAL ISSUES Syllabus

Sections 1 & 3, Fall 2015

Course and Contact Information

Instructor	Lisa Bernasconi
Office Location	Faculty Office Building 206
Email	lisabernasconi@gmail.com
Office Hours	Mondays 1:30 to 2:30
Class Days	Mondays and Wednesdays
Class Time	Section 1: 10:30 to 11:45; Section 3: 12:00 to 1:15
Classroom	DMH357
Prerequisites	English Remediation completed or a post baccalaureate.
GE/SJSU Studies	Area C2: Humanities & Arts, Letters

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.mrsbernasconi.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU and checking your email for class related correspondence.

Course Description

Moral philosophy covering major ethical theories and contemporary moral issues.

Learning Outcomes and Course Goals

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- recognize how significant works illuminate enduring human concerns. (GELO #1)
- respond to significant works by writing both research-based critical analyses and personal responses. (GELO #2)
- write clearly and effectively. Writing shall be assessed for correctness, clarity, and conciseness. (GELO #3)

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to understand a variety of ethical theories and apply them to specific moral dilemmas.

Students will compare and contrast consequentialist and non-consequentialist theories and apply them to moral issues such as poverty, the death penalty, same-sex marriage, religious freedom and individual and institutionalized discrimination.

Textbook

Most class readings will be available as PDF files on the class website. One inexpensive book (under \$20) will be required for each group for presentations. Details to follow.

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

You will be graded on the following work:

- 2 exams each 20% of total grade
- 1 community service project 5% of total grade
- preparedness/participation 10% of total grade (discussion, quizzes)
- 1 critical response essay 20% of total grade
- 1 reading outline 10% of total grade
- 1 group reading presentation 15% of total grade

There will be no extra credit assigned. Late assignments will not be accepted without serious cause. Due dates are listed on the course calendar.

NOTE that University policy F69-24 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

Your Name

On all assignments and exams, please use your name as listed on the official SJSU roster. If you use another name, please add it in parentheses. Ex: Grover Cleveland (Gus)

Grading Policy

A 95 to 100 A- 90 to 94 B+ 87 to 89 B 84 to 86 B- 80 to 83

C+ 77 to 79 C 74 to 76 C- 70 to 73 D 60 to 69 F 0 to 59

Classroom Protocol

Turn off cell phones. Use laptops and other devices only for note taking. Arrive on time. Be courteous to your fellow student. Let me know promptly if you have any concerns about the class. During group presentations and films, close your laptop and be attentive. Never leave the classroom during a presentation except in the case of emergency.

University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>.

Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
 - You have permission to make audio (but not video) recordings of my lectures. You may not record your fellow students.
 - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San Jose State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances requires students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, student must inform the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112 including digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and a study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit their website at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and on Facebook.

SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.