

San José State University

Moral Issues: Spring 2018

Philosophy 61:04; 21255

Instructor:	Janet Giddings, M.A. Philosophy; M.A. Theology
Office Location:	FOB 209
Telephone:	(408) 924-4471
Email:	Janet.giddings@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Tuesday and Thursday: 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. and by arrangement
Class Days/Time:	Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30-11:45 a.m.
Classroom:	SH 241
GE	C2; 3 units

Faculty Web Page and Canvas

This course is a lecture, class discussion, group workshop format, and hybrid course. Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, assignment directives, handouts, short films, helpful links, and tests or quizzes are posted in *Canvas*. Make certain you know how to use maneuver in *Canvas*; if you need assistance, please inform the instructor.

Course Description

[In this course we will study] moral philosophy covering major ethical theories and contemporary moral issues such as abortion, euthanasia, animal rights, capital punishment, and sexuality.

GE Learning Objectives (GELO)

The goal of this course is for the student to study and learn ethical theory; the student will learn to apply theory to ethical issues covered in the course; to write clearly and analytically; to research and present findings orally to the class at large.

NOTE: Make certain you look over due dates and test dates for this course to ensure you can commit. No exceptions made to these assignment and due dates.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO),

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

GELO1: have knowledge of historical and contemporary ethical theory.

GELO2: learn to apply ethical theories to a moral issue covered in the course.

GELO3: hone writing and speaking skills; gain ease in speaking about and applying moral issues.

Required Texts/Readings:

Bales, Kevin. *Disposable People: New Slavery in the Global Economy*. Updated. Berkeley: U of California Press, 2012.

Manning, Rita and Scott R. Stroud. *A Practical Guide to Ethics: Living and Leading with Integrity*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2008.

Library Contact

Peggy Cabrera: 408-808-2034
Peggy.Cabrera@sjsu.edu

Classroom Protocol

The best way to achieve the optimum grade is to come to class for lecture, discussion, and group workshops. Philosophical discussion includes argumentation which means logical reasoning of justifications for your position on a topic. It does not mean hateful language or anger toward other students or the professor.

Tardiness is disruptive to the professor and students. Any more than 3 tardy's will result in a lower participation grade of 5 points per late arrival; and if consistent beyond that, a reduction in the overall final grade. After 6 late arrivals, the students will be docked 5 points each time from the final grade.

If you arrive to class late, please shut the door quietly and sit in the closest seat. Do not walk in front of the professor when she is lecturing; please walk behind if you can. If your late arrival does interrupt the class, please be polite.

NO LAPTOP use in class. No texting or using electronics: see SJSU policy below. Use the restroom prior to tests.

If you text in class, the first time you will be asked to put your phone away. A 2nd time you will be asked to leave the classroom; and, if you persist, the instructor will report for disruptive behavior. A 3rd use of a phone in class will result in losing all participation points.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops are available at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html>. Information about late drop is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/> . Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

Assignments and Grading Policy: 100 points possible

- 20: Informed Class participation. This means your participation in discussion is informed by your reading the assignment for the day. Your comments and/or questions are pertinent to discussion topic. In-class writing, group work, homework, active listening all make up the participation grade.
- 1-2 missed participation: student demonstrates a close reading of assignments = A
3-4 missed participation: same as above = B-
5 missed participation: same as above = C-
6 missed participation: same as above = D
7 or more missed same as above = 0 points for participation

Also, if you are not in class to participate you may lose points for not being part of your group preparation for the Campus Human Trafficking day and you will lose points on that assignment as well.

- 20: Two papers: One explorative with research (3-4 pages) and one argumentative with research. Requires Works Cited page. Two scholarly sources for each paper.

20: Two tests on Manning/Stroud text.

20: Campus Information Day: Human Trafficking

10: Test on Bales: Chapters 1-4

10: Final on Bales: Chapters 5-7

NOTE: 1 Late paper will be accepted with a 50% reduction only with a legitimate reason, 2 days late maximum

- ***NO make-up tests unless documented medical emergency. Make sure you are present for all in-class tests.***
- ***Papers will be uploaded to Canvas or may be required in hard-copy.***

Grading

95-100	A	80-84	B	65-69	C
90-94	A-	75-80	B-	60-64	C-
85-89	B+	70-74	C+	55-59	D+

“A” Paper Guideline

An “A” paper is excellent. An “A” paper is focused with an explicit thesis statement (or position if an argumentative paper). It exhibits a clear, effective and organized line of thought as well as a thorough understanding of the material. It has no English usage problems, no problems with format, anticipates possible objections to its point of view (or directly considers an opposing view if an argument), supports the thesis (or position) with research and/or premises, and frequently provides pertinent citations to make its case. All borrowed ideas or words are cited whether using a direct quote or not. The writer’s “voice” is firm, confident, and clear. The paper assignment meets the directive completely.

University Policies

Academic Senate Policy S 12-3:

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU’s policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90-5 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Academic integrity

Students should know that the University’s Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University’s integrity policy, require 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 website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

Accessible Education Center:

"If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need 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 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with AEC to establish a record of their disability."[Academic Senate Policy F06-2](#)

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and 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. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The LARC website is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/>. SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/>.

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. Website of Peer Mentor Center is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <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:

- “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.”

Note:

No audio or visual (by cell phone, computers, video recorder or any other device) equipment may be used in class without the instructor and or DRC’s explicit written approval. No laptop use during class time; write notes and transfer them. No texting or use of phones. See above on texting in the classroom during class time.

If you use your cell phone in class, you will be asked to stop. A second time, you will be asked to leave. A third time and you will lose all participation points. Continued use in class will be considered disruptive and the professor will follow proper and ethical SJSU protocol.

Tardiness

Coming to class late is disruptive. Do not make this a habit or you will lose participation points and/or a reduction in final grade. One or two tardy’s is understandable. Three will reduce your participation grade 5 points; thereafter for every tardy = 5 more points deducted. Please see above details.

Religious holiday observance

- 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, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, **at least three days before** the date that he/she requests to be absent.

Schedule of Assignments

Note: This schedule could change; stay informed by coming to class and reading emails and alerts via Canvas.

Read the assigned materials prior to coming to class

Week One	Thurs Jan 25	Welcome; syllabus; textbooks
Week Two	Tues Jan 29	Begin: Manning/Stroud text: Preface and Intro Intro: Exercises 1.1, 1.2, 1.3
	Thurs Feb 1	Chapter 1
Week Three	Tues Feb 6	Chapter 2 with Exercises 2.1, 2.2
	Thurs Feb 8	Chapter 3; and Exercises 2.3, 2.4
Week Four	Tues Feb 13	Chapter 4: all
	Thurs Feb 15	Paper 1 due: Explorative
Week Five	Tues Feb 20	Chapter 5: Confucianism; Hinduism
	Thurs Feb 22	Chapter 5: Islamic ethics; finish all
Week Six	Tues Feb 27	Test 1: Manning/Stroud book: Chapters 1-5: Bring LARGE test booklet
	Thurs Mar 1	Groups: 1 st meeting on Campus Day
Week Seven	Tues Mar 6	In-class film: take notes
	Thurs Mar 8	Chapter 6: all
Week Eight	Tues Mar 13	Chapter 7: all
	Thurs Mar 15	Groups: 2 nd meeting on Campus Day
Week Nine	Tues Mar 20	Chapters 8, 9
	Thurs Mar 22	Chapter 10 In Canvas: Test 2: Manning/Stroud Chapters 6-10 Test opens tonight @ 5 p.m. and closes Sunday Mar 25 at 5:00 p.m.

Week Ten	Tues Mar 27 Thurs Mar 29	SPRING RECESS: NO CLASSES
Week Eleven	Tues Apr 3 Thurs Apr 5	Bales: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 Test 3 : Bales Chapters 1,2,3, 4
Week Twelve	Tues Apr 10 Thurs Apr 12	Bales: Chapters 5, 6 Paper 2 due : Argument; Groups meet in class
Week Thirteen	Tues Apr 17 Thurs Apr 19	Groups: Final meeting on Campus Day Campus Information Day : Human Trafficking
Week Fourteen	Tues Apr 24 Thurs Apr 26	De-briefing on Human Trafficking Campus Day Bales: Chapter 7; and Coda pg. 263
Week Fifteen	Tues May 1 Thurs May 3	Groups: Prepare for Ethics Bowl Groups: Final prep for Ethics Bowl
Week Sixteen	Tues May 8 Thurs May 10	Ethics Bowl : Groups 1 & 2 Groups 3 & 4 Ethics Bowl : Groups 5 & 6 Groups 7 & 8
FINAL	In Canvas	Bales: Chapters 5-7; and Coda Final opens: Final closes:

Note: Out of basic respect and courtesy, all students must be present for student presentations. Absences will result in a 5- point loss on final grade.

- 20: Participation
- 20: 2 Tests on Manning/Stroud
- 20: Campus Information Day: Human Trafficking
- 20: Two papers: Explorative; Argumentative
- 20: 1 Test and Final: on Bales