Administrative Unit: History and Social Sciences Department
Course Prefix and Number: PHIL 330
Course Title: Ethics
Number of Credit Hours: 3  Lecture Hours: 3  Laboratory Hours: 0
Catalog Description: Examination of various moral philosophers’ attempts to prescribe ethical norms applicable to all mankind. Prerequisite: Junior standing.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior standing.
Text(s): Most current editions of the following:
Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*.
I. Kant, *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*.
J.S. Mill, *Utilitarianism*.

Course Objectives:
• To understand three basic approaches to philosophical ethics, i.e., consequentialism, deontology, and virtue theory.
• To evaluate theoretical approaches to ethics in order to formulate a personal approach to ethics that is coherent and defensible.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:
• Read classic philosophical prose (specifically classical theoretical ethics) for critical understanding.
• Understand the three basic approaches to philosophical ethics, i.e., consequentialism, deontology, and virtue ethics.
• Formalize sophisticated philosophical arguments found in theoretical ethics.
• Identify problems and weaknesses in the basic approaches to theoretical ethics.
• Analyze and provide criticisms of sophisticated philosophical arguments found in theoretical ethics.
• Formally present possible solutions to problems found in theoretical ethics.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage): Note: PHIL 330 Ethics is a junior level philosophy course, as such students must be required to read from the original texts of all philosophers covered. Further, students must be required to write critical papers formalizing, criticizing and providing responses to arguments found in the reading.

• Consequentialism
• Deontology
• Virtue Theory
Recommended maximum class size for this course:  30

Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

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Date:  March 23, 2006

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

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