



COURSE SYLLABUS

Please read the following course syllabus carefully, especially the course dates, times and location. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to communicate with the IDEAL Program office, your academic advisor, or the instructor.

The IDEAL degree-completion program is designed with the adult learner in mind. Adult learners approach learning with specific goals, want to be able to directly apply new learning to their work and personal lives, and tend to learn best when the coursework is problem-centered so that they are actively engaged in the learning process. In addition, adults bring rich and varied experience to the classroom, which becomes a valuable learning resource for other students.

The IDEAL Program assumes joint responsibility in the learning process. The activities and assignments in the courses build on the shared experience of all learners in each class. This is why each student's preparation, participation and interaction in class activities and discussions are critical to the success of each course. The accelerated format of each course requires a significant amount your time outside the classroom to prepare for and complete the course assignments. This varies between students and courses; however, students typically spend nine-twelve hours per week on course material.

To participate in the IDEAL Program, it is expected that you will do the following:

1. Attend every class session. Be on time.
2. Obtain the required course materials prior to the first class session.
3. Complete the first assignment prior to the first class session and all subsequent assignments to the best of your ability.
4. Participate in the class discussions and demonstrate respect and consideration to the instructor and other students when they express themselves in discussion.

If you cannot perform these four expectations, it is recommended that you drop the course. We look forward to your academic success in each course and the ultimate completion of your degree.

Course No. & Title: PHIL 203 ID8W2, Ethics
Semester and Term: SUMMER 2014
Day and Dates: Thursdays, 7/10/2014 – 8/21/2014
Time: 6pm – 9:30 pm
Campus Location: Bridgeport

Course Description:

General introduction to Ethics, Ethical theories, Contemporary Ethical Issues and Problems. A study of problems of applied ethics, such as justice, abortion, affirmative action, and gay and lesbian rights. These problems are explored from the standpoint of ethical theories such as Utilitarianism and Kantian ethics. The course helps students formulate and interpret moral values by which they may think and act.

Prerequisite Course: ENGL 101

Course Code: HUM, LA, UC

Instructor & contact information:

Michael Schrynemakers, PhD

mschrynemakers@bridgeport.edu

Required Textbook: Michael J. Sandel, *Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?* (Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux; ISBN: 978-0-374-18065-2) Other materials to be provided by the Professor.

To order textbooks, go to the bookstore website at: <http://bridgeport.textbooktech.com/>
Select IDEAL Campus and login to the bookstore. Select the course and follow instructions.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Clearly communicate the importance of philosophical theory for addressing ethical questions
- Apply prominent ethical theories to ethical questions and dilemmas
- More accurately analyze and evaluate philosophical arguments
- Describe the key philosophical issues of several political, economic, and social moral topics currently debated in the US

First Assignment Prior to the First Class:

Complete assignment below and bring hard copy to First Session: (Session 1)

Assignment #1: 500 word essay:

watch episode 1 of : <http://www.justiceharvard.org/watch/>

What do you think the right thing to do is in the trolley case? Why?

Assignments:

- 6 assignments to be turned in – due Sessions 1,2,3,4, 5, 6.
- 6 quizzes – in class, closed book, quiz questions announced in advance
- Details of weekly assignments are posted below session by session under Assignment.
- Other assignments are completed Online via Canvas per instructions on Canvas.
Discussions will be on episodes of <http://www.justiceharvard.org/watch/>
- Final Discussion and Exam Week 7

Description of Weekly Sessions:

Session 1:

What is the right thing to do?

Reading: Chapter 1

Assignment #1: as stated above.

Complete Weekly Discussion Board on Canvas

Session 2:

Utilitarianism and Libertarianism

-The greatest good of the greatest number

Do we own ourselves?

-The freedom to do....but to do what and how?

Readings Chapters 2 and 3

Complete Weekly Discussion Board on Canvas

Assignment #2: Reaction Paper based (analytical essay) on the reading. (Sessions 2, 3, & 4)

Format: What is the author saying? Analysis of what you think of what the author has said?

SECTION1: What is the author saying?

This assignment is not an exercise in sharing your personal opinions without critical reflection or without reference to the concepts in the text. Look at the content as it relates to your goals in this class, does the

material stimulate you? Is it valid, reliable, or meaningful? What was your reaction to the authors' research and findings?

SECTION 2: Questions Analysis:

What significant questions occurred as a result of the readings, class periods and from your experience? What issues would you like to discuss with your fellow students? If you are practicing critical thinking then new questions will constantly arise. Not having any questions is a warning sign that you are simply being feed information and accepting everything without critical reflection.

Session 3:

**Immanuel Kant and Kantianism
Hired Help/ Markets and Morals**

Readings: Chapters 4 and 5

Complete Weekly Discussion Board on Canvas

Assignment #3: Reaction paper based on the readings.

Session 4:

**The Case for Equality
John Rawls and Equality**

Readings: Chapters 6

Complete Weekly Discussion Board on Canvas

Assignment #4: Reaction paper based on readings.

Session 5

Arguing Affirmative Action

Readings: Chapter 7 and 8

Complete Weekly Discussion Board on Canvas

Aristotle: Who deserves what?

Complete Weekly Discussion Board on Canvas

Session 6

What do we owe one another/Dilemmas of Loyalty

Reading: Chapter 9 and 10

Complete Weekly Discussion Board on Canvas

Assignment: No paper due

Assignment #5: Research Paper due (5 pages typed - with in text citations {use APA} from at least 5 different sources) Cover page and Works Cited page **NOT** included.

Suggested Areas for Research Papers:

- ✓ Freedom, Equality and Autonomy: The Civil Rights movement,
- ✓ The Question of Freedom and Legalizing Drugs
- ✓ Is there equality without freedom? Does true freedom exist?
- ✓ Slavery and Affirmative Action: An Analysis
- ✓ Crime and Punishment: Is the Death Penalty fair,
- ✓ War and International Justice: What makes a war just?
- ✓ Human Sexuality (Homosexuality), Abortion, Euthanasia, Cloning.

Justice and the Common Good

Complete Weekly Discussion Board on Canvas

Assignment #6: Final Wrap up Paper:

This 2 page paper will be due on the last day of class, and I encourage you to wait until the last week of class to complete it. The focus of this assignment is an overall reflection and celebration of what the course has been for you. Thinking about the following questions may help you complete the paper:

What meant the most to you?

What challenged you, stretched your mind?

What aspect touched you emotionally?

What elements will have a lasting impact?

Will your relationship with others ethnic groups be different? How?

Are you different as person 'in some way'? How?

How has your perspective on Ethics in the United States and abroad developed through your learning experience during this course? Express any emotions, insights or comments that are present as we conclude the class.

Session 7

Discussion and Final Exam

Grading Criteria:

GRADING:

- A. 6 Essays 5%30%
- B. 6 Quizzes 5%.....30%
- C. Discussions and Posts on Canvas.....20%
(Detailed posting instructions on Canvas)
- D. Final20%

Letter Grading Scale:

% of Points Earned	Letter Grade	% of Points Earned	Letter Grade
100-94	A	76-74	C
93-90	A-	73-70	C-
89-87	B+	69-67	D+
86-84	B	66-64	D
83-80	B-	63-60	D-
79-77	C+	Below 60	F

Requirements and Performance Criteria

Grade	Requirements & Performance Criteria
A	Students achieving this level will have demonstrated the following:
	1. Accurate and sophisticated understanding of readings and issues with ability to do more than repeat what the text says or what was said in class, such as the ability to infer additional important information from sources.
	2. Critical stance toward opinions communicated in class or in the readings and the ability to express their own views articulately and defends them well.
	3. Originality of thought in expressing the critical stance, in drawing out additional implications from the readings and class discussions, and in finding personal meaning in the readings and issues discussed.
	4. Clear expression of ideas, with papers containing very few grammatical or stylistic weaknesses.
	5. All assignments completed and submitted within the time allowed.
B	Students achieving this level will have demonstrated the following:
	1. All of the “A” work, but with less accomplishment.
	2. Accurate understanding of readings and issues, with the ability to do more than repeat the text.
	3. A critical stance, with some effort, not always successful, to defend that stance.
	4. Some attempt to find personal meaning, with at least hints of originality and creativity of thought.
	5. Very clear expression of thoughts and ideas.
C	Students achieving this level will have demonstrated the following:
	1. A generally accurate grasp of the readings and issues, but with some inaccuracy; lack of sophisticated understanding, such as the ability to infer from sources.
	2. Some attempt to take a critical stance, but with little effort or success in defending that stance.
	3. Some attempt to find personal meaning.
	4. Sufficient clarity of expression to communicate ideas, but with stylistic or grammatical weaknesses which create difficulties.
D	Students achieving this level will have demonstrated the following:
	1. Genuine efforts to understand, with some demonstrated understanding of readings and issues, but with serious deficiencies.
	2. Generally lacking in critical stance or in a defense of that stance.

	3. Lack of understanding or an attempt to find personal meaning.
F	Simply an unsatisfactory effort in key respects, especially in understanding or clarity of expression.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Attendance Policy

Classroom attendance is an integral part of the academic experience; therefore, students are expected to attend all class sessions. If an absence is unavoidable, the student, prior to class, should communicate with the instructor. Arrangements should be made at that time for submission of any missed assignments. It is also expected that students arrive on time and not leave until the class is dismissed. Tardiness will result in a reduced grade for the course. If you cannot attend every class session you should consider dropping the course.

IMPORTANT:

- Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if a student earns a grade of “B” in the course, the final grade would be a “C”).
- Missing two or more class sessions will be cause for a failing grade.
- Note: For 15-week courses; missing two class sessions will result in a letter grade drop and three or more will cause a failing grade.

Drop Procedures

To drop a course, you must complete and submit a Schedule Change Request Form. The form can be accessed at the IDEAL Course Schedule webpage:

<http://www.bridgeport.edu/academics/continuinged/ideal-academic-degree-programs-and-certificates/ideal-course-schedule/>.

Please print and complete the form and fax the form to the IDEAL Office: 203-576-4537. Prior to dropping a course, the student should contact their IDEAL Academic Advisor to understand the implications to financial aid and/or degree plan progress.

Please review the drop fees and tuition refunds at the Academic Calendar; accessed at the IDEAL Course Schedule webpage (same link above).

Cell Phones

Cell phones must be turned off (or placed on “vibrate”) while in the classroom. A cell phone call is disruptive and disrespectful to the other students in the class.

Academic Dishonesty

The IDEAL program prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is normally defined as, but not limited to, the following two categories:

Cheating – Using inappropriate sources of information in an assignment or on a test. The following are examples of cheating taken from real student experiences:

Case #1: A student is enrolled in an introductory psychology course. He has co-workers who have taken the same course. As the end of the course approaches, he wonders how he will find the time to get the research paper finished, and asks one of his co-workers for help. His co-worker hands him a research paper that he submitted in a similar course. The student makes minor modifications to the paper, and submits it under his own name.

Case #2: A student enrolled in a humanities course is unsure about how to structure an essay. She is doing research on the World Wide Web, and comes across an essay written by a student from another university. Using her computer mouse, she copies and pastes the essay into her word processor. She goes to great lengths to re-word the paper in her own style, but essentially leaves the content and organization the same.

Plagiarism – Intentional as well as unintentional failure to acknowledge sources as well as the use of commercially available so-called “research papers” without full recognition of the source. Presenting as one’s own, the ideas, words, or products of another. The following are examples of plagiarism taken from real student experiences:

Case #3: A student is conducting research for a Civil War research paper. He has reviewed work on the Internet. Finding helpful information, he has summarized his findings without citing his sources. He believes that minor paraphrasing is all that is necessary.

Case #4: A student is writing a paper that requires her to address specific topics and problems in the assigned course textbook. She takes the information directly from the textbook with slight modification, without giving any citation. She thinks that since it is the course textbook, she doesn’t have to use quotations or citations.

Academic dishonesty applies to all courses, assignments or exams completed by students and submitted as their own original work, whether in person or by electronic means. The University does not tolerate cheating in any form. It is a serious breach of conduct with serious consequences. Instructors have the right to determine the appropriate penalty for academic dishonesty in their own courses; generally, however, such acts will result in a failing grade for the assignment and/or the course. The penalty for subsequent acts of academic dishonesty may include expulsion.

More information on how to recognize plagiarism can be found at this site:
http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/plagiarism_test.html

Ethics Statement of Confidentiality

An integral component of an IDEAL course is student and faculty expression of personal experiences for the purpose of facilitating coursework. Students enrolled in the program are expected to honor confidentiality as it pertains to student disclosure. Shared information, comments, or opinions expressed by another student or the faculty member during the course of

classroom discussion should never be used in a manner which is intended to humiliate, embarrass, harass, damage, or otherwise injure other students in their personal, public, or business lives. In addition, confidentiality must be upheld by not disclosing any information that would identify any particular individual.

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The Academic Resource Center is available for IDEAL students seeking help in their studies. The Center is staffed by writing professionals and peer tutors. More information can be found at: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2209.asp> The Center is located on the 5th Floor of the Wahlstrom Library. Make an appointment or walk-in: Telephone: 203-576-4290. **Online Tutoring** is available at: www.etutoring.org. To use this free service you must have a UBNet account.

Obtaining a UBNet Account

Every registered student should obtain a UBNet Account. The account allows you to access MyUB; the portal for grades, library services, Canvas online learning system. Also, the account allows you access to computers in the Library and computer labs, and provides an email account in which the University sends out information. Go to: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/ubnet> - Click on “New UBNet Account” and follow the instructions.

The @bridgeport.edu email address is the official email the University uses to send information to you. You can have your bridgeport.edu email forwarded to any other private email account you use. Following the activation of your UBNet account (takes 24 hours), login at: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/email> and click on “forwards” at the top of the page. Follow the directions to forward email messages to your other account.

Accessing Your Grades & Schedule Online

The WebAdvisor online information system allows students to search for available classes, check grades, view semester class schedule and verify your personal profile. Grades are generally posted 2-3 weeks following the end of a course. To access WebAdvisor, login in to MyUB and follow the WebAdvisor menu on the right. If you are carrying a financial balance, access to WebAdvisor will be restricted.

Using the Library

Access to the Digital Library is through MyUB. On the MyUB home, in the central column, click on “myEureka Digital Library.” Research tools available:

- Search for books held at the library.
- Search the online databases for your academic field; business, counseling, human services, psychology, etc.
- Send questions to the Reference Librarian for assistance in research topics and searching strategy.

Using Computers

Open access computer labs are available at three locations:

- Bridgeport – 1st floor of the Wahlstrom library. Check library hours of operation at: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/library>.

- Stamford – Room D; Check open hours at:
<http://www.bridgeport.edu/stamford>
- Waterbury – Computer Lab; Check open hours at:
<http://www.bridgeport.edu/waterbury>

Course Cancellations

Any emergency necessitating the canceling of courses will be announced by the University through the Emergency Notification Telephone Line, (203) 576-4159. Please call this number for information on course cancellations. Also, information will be posted under “Latest News” on the UB home page, (www.bridgeport.edu). Canceled classes will be made up either the week following the end of the course or in consultation between the instructor and the students as to day and time availability. Course cancellations are also announced on television and radio stations.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Office	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport Campus Security	(203) 576-4911	ubsecurity@bridgeport.edu
Bursar	(203) 576-4692	sfs@bridgeport.edu
Cashier	(203) 576-4682	sfs@bridgeport.edu
Financial Aid	(203) 576-4568	sfs@bridgeport.edu
Registrar	(203) 576-4635	registrar@bridgeport.edu
Emergency Notification Phone	(203) 576-4159	
IDEAL Office	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

Campus	Address	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport	126 Park Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06604	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu
Stamford	5 Riverbend Drive Stamford, CT 06750	(203) 358-0700	ubstamford@bridgeport.edu
Waterbury	84 Progress Lane Waterbury, CT 06705	(203) 573-8501	ubwaterbury@bridgeport.edu

Directions to IDEAL Campus locations	http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2260.asp
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**To fill out your financial aid report to the Federal Government, please go online to www.fafsa.ed.gov. The school code for the University of Bridgeport is 001416.
Federal Student Aid Information: 1-800-433-3243**