HU2702 ETHICS SUMMER 2007

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Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. MW or by appointment

Course Objectives:

The course will survey the major ethical theories and their application to some contemporary moral issues. These issues will be chosen from the second text listed below.

Texts:

Lawrence Hinman, Ethics: A Pluralistic Approach to Ethics, 3rd Edition
Lawrence Hinman, Contemporary Moral Issues: Diversity and Consensus, 3rd Edition

Course Requirements:

In order to earn a passing grade in this course, you must take two hour exams, a final exam, and complete a paper on an assigned topic. The first hour exam will be given on July 19 during the regular class time. The second hour exam will be given on August 2. The final will be given on August 17 during the regular class time. The assigned topics list will be announced after the class has chosen which contemporary moral issues to investigate. Failure to take the exams or to submit a paper will result in an automatic 'F' for the course.

Grade Policy:

The exams are worth 20% each. The paper has a weight of 20%. Class attendance and participation counts for 20% of the final grade. Each unexcused absence will lower the final grade by 2%.

Class Attendance:

Regular class attendance is expected. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what was discussed and what announcements were made. You are expected to stay for the entire class period unless you have made prior arrangements to leave early. You are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings. At the professor's discretion, informal writing assignments on the assigned readings will be given and these will also affect the participation/attendance grade (in the same way as an unexcused absence).

Reading Sequence:

We will cover chapters 1, 2, 3, 7, 4, 5, and 6 from the moral theory text in that order. In addition, the value theory called Ethical Hedonism will be covered between chapters 4 and chapter 5. A pluralistic approach based on *prima facie* duties will be presented after chapter 7. Readings from
the contemporary moral issues book will be determined by the class, except that the first issue covered will be Euthanasia.

Discussion and Presentation Schedule:

- Introduction to course, Moral Theories (chapter 1)
- Moral Theories (chapter 1)
- Ethical Relativism (chapter 2)
- Religious Moralities (chapter 3)
- Issue 1 - Euthanasia
- Rights Ethics (chapter 7)
- Ethical Hedonism (chapter 5)
- Psychological Egoism (chapter 4)
- Ethical Egoism (chapter 4)
- Issue 2
- Utilitarianism (chapter 5)
- Ethics of Duty (chapter 6)
- Prima Facie Duties
- Virtue Ethics (chapter 9)
- Issues

Michigan Technological University complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Dean for Students (2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department head, or the Affirmative Action Office (3310).