

## Ethical Issues and Life Choices, Spring 2026, Detailed Course Schedule

This course schedule is a guide to the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

<b>Day</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Pages</b>
<b>Wed, Jan 07</b>	What Is Ethics?	Lecture 1: Singer's Conclusion	N/A	N/A
<b>Fri, Jan 09</b>	What Is Ethics?	Lecture 2: The Realist Conception of Ethics	Shafer-Landau: Ethical Subjectivism Shand: Introduction	9–15 1–10
<b>Mon, Jan 12</b>	What Is Ethics?	Lecture 3: Arguments and Validity	Plato: Euthyphro	1–20
<b>Wed, Jan 14</b>	Effective Altruism	Lecture 4: Utilitarianism	Singer: The Singer Solution to World Poverty Mill: Utilitarianism	60–63 596–600
<b>Fri, Jan 16</b>	Effective Altruism	Lecture 5: The Utilitarian Argument for EA	Mill: Utilitarianism	600–606
<b>Mon, Jan 19</b>	<b>MLK Day</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Wed, Jan 21</b>	Effective Altruism	Lecture 6: Deontology	Kagan: Deontology	70–74
<b>Fri, Jan 23</b>	Effective Altruism	Lecture 7: Personal Commitments	Kagan: Deontology	74–78
<b>Mon, Jan 26</b>	Disability	Lecture 8: Harm and Disability	Barnes: Causing Disability	1–4
<b>Wed, Jan 28</b>	Disability	Lecture 9: Well-Being	Nozick: The Experience Machine	1–6
<b>Fri, Jan 30</b>	Disability	Lecture 10: The Mere Difference View	Barnes: Causing Disability	5–9
<b>Mon, Feb 02</b>	Animals	Lecture 11: Animal Pain	Gruen: Eating Animals	76–86

<b>Day</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Pages</b>
<b>Wed, Feb 04</b>	Animals	Lecture 12: The Consequentialist Argument	Gruen: Eating Animals	92–98
<b>Fri, Feb 06</b>	Animals	Lecture 13: The Causal Involvement Argument	Gruen: Eating Animals	98–101
<b>Mon, Feb 09</b>	Exam 1 Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Wed, Feb 11</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Fri, Feb 13</b>	Abortion	Lecture 15: The Question of Abortion	Thomson: A Defense of Abortion	47–50
<b>Mon, Feb 16</b>	Abortion	Lecture 16: Drawing the Line	Thomson: A Defense of Abortion	50–53
<b>Wed, Feb 18</b>	Abortion	Lecture 17: The Violinist	Thomson: A Defense of Abortion	53–62
<b>Fri, Feb 20</b>	Abortion	Lecture 18: Minimally Decent Samaritanism	Thomson: A Defense of Abortion	62–66
<b>Mon, Feb 23</b>	Abortion	Lecture 19: Epicurus on Death	Epicurus: Letter to Menoecus	1–2
<b>Wed, Feb 25</b>	Abortion	Lecture 20: The Deprivation Response	Marquis: The Deliberately Induced Abortion of a Human Pregnancy Is Not Ethically Justifiable	120–123
<b>Fri, Feb 27</b>	Abortion	Lecture 21: Marquis on Abortion	Marquis: The Deliberately Induced Abortion of a Human Pregnancy Is Not Ethically Justifiable	123–128

<b>Day</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Pages</b>
<b>Mon, Mar 02</b>	Euthanasia	Lecture 22: Voluntary Euthanasia	Rachels: Active and Passive Euthanasia	78–79
<b>Wed, Mar 04</b>	Euthanasia	Lecture 23: Active and Passive Euthanasia	Rachels: Active and Passive Euthanasia	79–80
<b>Fri, Mar 06</b>	Euthanasia	Lecture 24 Intention and Foresight	Lee: Physician Assisted Suicide Is Not Ethical	213–215
<b>Mon, Mar 09</b>	Euthanasia	Lecture 25: The Objective List Theory	Lee: Physician Assisted Suicide Is Not Ethical	215–217
<b>Wed, Mar 11</b>	Euthanasia	Lecture 26: The Value of Human Life	Lee: Physician Assisted Suicide Is Not Ethical	217–221
<b>Fri, Mar 13</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Mon, Mar 16</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Wed, Mar 18</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Fri, Mar 20</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Mon, Mar 23</b>	Kant and Consent	Lecture 26: Kantianism	Kant: The Categorical Imperative	593–596
<b>Wed, Mar 25</b>	Kant and Consent	Lecture 27: The Formula of the End in Itself	O’Neill: Kantian Approaches to Some Famine Problems	689–695
<b>Fri, Mar 27</b>	Kant and Consent	Lecture 28: Morally Valid Consent	Dougherty: Sex, Lies, and Consent	717–722
<b>Mon, Mar 30</b>	Kant and Consent	Lecture 29: Sexual Moralism	Dougherty: Sex, Lies, and Consent	727–732
<b>Wed, Apr 01</b>	Virtue and Forgiveness	Lecture 30: Virtue Theory	Aristotle: Nicomachean Ethics	814–817 824–829

<b>Day</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Pages</b>
			Hursthouse: Virtue Ethics	
<b>Fri, Apr 03</b>	Virtue and Forgiveness	Lecture 31: Forgiveness	Murphy: Chapter 1–5 1	
<b>Mon, Apr 06</b>	Virtue and Forgiveness	Lecture 32: The Rationality of Vindictive Emotions	Murphy: Chapter 1–7 2	
<b>Wed, Apr 08</b>	Virtue and Forgiveness	Lecture 33: Unconditional Forgiveness	Murphy: Chapters 4	1–4
<b>Fri, Apr 10</b>	Stoicism	Lecture 34: Indifferents	Seneca: On Anger	1–8
<b>Mon, Apr 13</b>	Stoicism	Lecture 35: The Counterproductivity Critique	Seneca: On Anger	8–13
<b>Wed, Apr 15</b>	Stoicism	Lecture 36: Apt Anger	Srinivasan: The Aptness of Anger	123–131
<b>Fri, Apr 17</b>	Epistocracy	Lecture 37: Rational Ignorance	Brennan: Ignorant, Irrational, Misinformed Nationalists	23–32 and 36–43
<b>Mon, Apr 20</b>	Epistocracy	Lecture 38: The Competence Principle	Brennan: The Right to a Competent Government	140–151
<b>Wed, Apr 22</b>	Epistocracy	Lecture 39: The Rule of the Wise		
<b>Fr, Apr 24</b>	Exam 3 Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Thu, Apr 30</b>	<b>Exam 3</b> <b>10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</b> <b>Regular Class Location</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A