

Course description

Course abbreviation:	KFR/METI1	Page:	1 / 3
Course name:	Ethics I		
Academic Year:	2024/2025	Printed:	31.05.2024 16:49

Department/Unit /	KFR / METI1			Academic Year	2024/2025
Title	Ethics I			Type of completion	Examination
Accredited/Credits	Yes, 5 Cred.			Type of completion	Combined
Number of hours	Lecture 2 [HRS/WEEK]				
Occ/max	Status A	Status B	Status C	Course credit prior to	NO
Summer semester	0 / -	0 / -	0 / -	Counted into average	YES
Winter semester	0 / 10	0 / 0	0 / 20	Min. (B+C) students	not determined
Timetable	Yes			Repeated registration	NO
Language of instruction	Czech			Semester taught	Winter semester
Optional course	Yes			Internship duration	0
Evaluation scale	A B C D E F				
No. of hours of on-premise	0				
Auto acc. of credit	No				
Periodicity	K				
Substituted course	KFI/METI1				
Preclusive courses	N/A				
Prerequisite courses	N/A				
Informally recommended courses	N/A				
Courses depending on this Course	N/A				

Course objectives:

The course will be conducted in English. It will have the form of seminar discussion of a given text preceded by a short introductory lecture.

The aim of the course is to introduce the students in the systematic discussion of basic problems of ethics. It aims at connecting two perspectives: one is the way they emerge in the history of ethics ancient and modern, the other is the form they take in the contemporary debates. This part of the course covers the questions of objectivity, justification, moral motivation, responsibility, voluntary action, freedom and happiness. For each topic, two sessions are assigned each of which covers one important argument (typically presented in one paper) relevant to the topic. Part of the session is discussion of the problem in which students form and defend their view.

What is a moral problem?
 Justification of Morality
 Moral luck
 Moral motivation
 Fame, celebrity and good life

Requirements on student

1. Active attendance in the course, preparation of the reading (the student can miss three sessions maximum).
2. Written assignment: Two texts of "Problem analysis" (3 to 4 normed pages plus bibliography) relating to the topic discussed at the course. The second one will be graded for the examination (Zkouška).

The Problem analysis is written as a structured text (you can use numbers, headings, subheadings, etc) that states a clear thesis (claim) and presents an argument in its favour. The author formulates the problem concerned and, based on her own argument and consideration of relevant literature, she adopts her own position and states it clearly in the text together with the supporting argument or justification. A mere general exposition of a topic (a textbook overview) is not admitted.

Content

Simone Weil on justice, equality and abuse of power
 Conceptions of power and domination
 Coercion and manipulation
 Evil, cruelty, sadism vs. compassion
 Vices of power
 Vulnerability, dependency, care
 Rape
 Child maltreatment
 Elderly abuse
 Animal cruelty

Prerequisites - other information about course preconditions

Basic knowledge of English - listening, speaking and writing. Basic knowledge of Kant's ethics and utilitarianism.

Competences acquired**Fields of study****Guarantors and lecturers**

- **Guarantors:** Mgr. Kamila Pacovská, Ph.D.
- **Lecturer:** Lesley Paige Jamieson, Ph.D. (100%), Mgr. Kamila Pacovská, Ph.D. (100%)

Literature

- **Basic:** Chappell, T. "Glory as an Ethical Idea" in Knowing What to Do. Oxford University Press, 2014.
- **Basic:** Kant, I. Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals. Transl. Mary Gregor, Jens Timmermann. A German-English edition, Cambridge University Press 2011.
- **Basic:** Nagel, T. "Moral Luck". in Mortal Questions, Cambridge University Press 1979, 24-38.
- **Basic:** Williams, B. A. O.. "Moral Luck". in B. Williams, Moral Luck, Cambridge University Press 1981, pp. 20-39.
- **Basic:** Williams B. A. O. Morality. An Introduction to Ethics. Cambridge University Press 1993.
- **Basic:** Herman, B. "On the Value of Acting from the Motive of Duty". in Herman, The Practice of Moral Judgment, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1993, 1-22.
- **Basic:** Plato. Republic. transl. Reeve, Indianapolis: Hackett, 2005.
- **Basic:** Stocker, M. "The Schizophrenia of Modern Ethical Theories". The Journal of Philosophy 73 (1976), 453-466.
- **Recommended:** Robb, C. M. & Archer, A. "Talent, Skill, and Celebrity". Ethical Perspectives 29 (1), 2022, 33-63.

Time requirements**All forms of study**

Activities	Time requirements for activity [h]
Účast na výuce	30
Domácí příprava na výuku	60
Total:	90

Teaching methods

Přednášení
 Dialogic (discussion, interview, brainstorming)
 Work with text (with textbook, with book)

Assessment methods

Written examination
 Home assignment evaluation
 Creative work analysis

Course is included in study programmes:

Study Programme	Type of	Form of	Branch	Stage	St. plan v.	Year	Block	Status	R.year	R.
Philosophy	Follow-up study	Full-time	Philosophy	1	2024	2024	Compulsory Courses	A	1	ZS
Philosophy	Follow-up study	Full-time	Philosophy	1	2021	2024	Compulsory Courses	A	1	ZS
Philosophy	Follow-up study	Full-time	Philosophy	1	2022	2024	Compulsory Courses	A	1	ZS
Philosophy	Follow-up study	Full-time	Philosophy	1	2023	2024	Compulsory Courses	A	1	ZS