Course Code & No. – Section:	CORE 400 – Section 1
Course Title (Credits):	Ethics (3)
Term & Year:	Fall / 2015
Course Ref. No. (CRN):	80050
Instructors:	Dan O'Bryan
Phone(s):	x 7524 or 775-322-63 or (775) 527-7670 (cell)
Email:	dobryan@sierranevada.edu
Office:	PL 301
Office Hours:	MWF 9:00-10:00, 1:00-5:00 TR 9:00-5:00
Class Meeting Times:	MW 4:00-5:15 p.m.
Location:	PL 214
Prerequisites:	Senior Standing
Corequisites:	None

Course Description

This course approaches ethics from a historical and contemporary perspective. It begins with a systematic review of the major figures and theories of the Western tradition and then applies those theories, together with current ethical thought, to contemporary controversies. Certain ethical concerns, however, change little over time. This course addresses how we should live, both individually and as a society.

Student Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the main schools of Western ethics;
2. Analyze critically contemporary moral dilemmas and defend the resolution of those dilemmas logically and persuasively;
3. Develop a better understanding of the implications and dimensions of a personal moral code.

Methods of Assessing Student Outcomes

Student outcomes will be assessed using the following:

1. Weekly position papers on ethical dilemmas;
2. Classroom participation;
3. A midterm and a final;
4. A research project assigned by the instructor;
5. A final classroom presentation based upon the research project.

Instructional Strategies

This course will be a combination of lecture and discussion based upon close reading of the text. Discussion will become increasingly important as we move further into the material.

Required Text
Applying Ethics, Eleventh Edition, Jeffrey Olen, Julie C. Van Camp, Vincent Barry, Wadsworth, 2015, ISBN: 978-1-285-19677-0

Attendance

If absences exceed two for the term, a legitimate excuse, either personal or medical, must be submitted. If no excuse appears, the third absence will result in a reduction of one grade point; the fourth, of two grade points; the fifth, of three grade points; the sixth absence will result in an F for the course.

Class Requirements

Food and drink will not be permitted in this class.
Once class begins, all members of the class will be expected to remain for the duration of the class.
Tardiness is a royal pain and may result in bizarre consequences.
We will be using our text frequently in class; therefore, please bring it to each meeting.

Prim Library Resources

Using the library's resources effectively (not just Internet resources) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments.

Specifically, utilizing the ethics catalog of books currently in Prim, you will be expected to begin to isolate a topic for your research paper. Based upon that topic, you will then be able to use our electronic databases with greater precision.

The Honor Code
The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

Consequences for Violating the Faculty/Student Honor Code:
SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the honor code and consequences for violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM, and FABRICATION and refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the honor code become part of a student's academic record.
SNC's Disciplinary Sanctions for Honor Code Violations:

1st Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.

2nd Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.

3rd Offense: Student is expelled.

Grading Policy
Grading will be based upon the position papers, the examinations, the research paper, the presentations, and classroom participation. Although the position papers, examinations, the research paper, presentations and classroom participation will be the primary means
of grade assessment, improvement throughout the semester will be very important in terms of the final grade. A simple average of the grades from the position papers, examinations, the research

paper and presentations will be the baseline for the final grade. If significant improvement occurs throughout the course, however, this fact will be taken into account.

ADA Accommodations
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, hconover@sierranevada.edu or go to the OASIS offices on the third floor of Prim Library within the first week of the semester.

The SNC Email System
The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.
Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

Class Schedule

Date		Topic	Text
8/17		Introductory	
8/19		Moral Reasoning	1-22
8/24		Aristotle, Kant, Mill	22-44
8/26		Plato, Held	44-51
8/31		Western Reason: Positive and Negative	52-71
9/2		World View to Moral Code	
9/9	SS	Sexual Morality	74-93
9/14	SS	Sexual Morality II	93-116
9/16	SS	Abortion I	117-157
9/21	SS	Abortion II	157-175
9/23	SS	Euthanasia I	176-205
9/28	SS	Euthanasia II	205-227
9/30	SS,ECS	Genetic Engineering I	228-250
10/5	SS, ECS	Genetic Engineering II	251-281
10/7	SS	Capital Punishment I	282-297
10/12	SS	Capital Punishment II	297-323
10/14		Review and Midterm	
10/19	SS, ECS	War, Terrorism and Civil Liberties I	324-334
10/21	SS, ECS	War, Terrorism and Civil Liberties II	334-358
10/26	SS, ECS	Globalization and Social Justice I	359-374
10/28	SS, ECS	Globalization and Social Justice II	374-405
11/2	SS, ECS	Discrimination I	406-419
11/4	SS, ECS	Discrimination II	419-443
11/9	ENS	Animal Rights and the Environment I	444-456
11/16	ENS	Animal Rights and the Environment II	456-484
11/18	ENS	Animal Rights and the Environment III	484-498
11/30	ECS, SS, EDS	Computer Ethics and the Internet I	499-521
12/2	ECS, SS, EDS	Computer Ethics and the Internet II	522-541

THE FOUR SUSTAINABILITIES: ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY.

THE MISSION: OUR GRADUATES WILL BE SCHOLARS OF AND CONTRIBUTORS TO A SUSTAINABLE WORLD. SIERRA NEVADA COLLEGE COMBINES THE LIBERAL ARTS AND PROFESSIONAL PREPAREDNESS THROUGH AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CURRICULUM THAT EMPHASIZES ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY.

The Core Themes: Liberal Arts, Professional Preparedness, Entrepreneurial Thinking, Sustainability.