

Course Syllabus

	PHL 6011 Christian Ethics 3 Units
Fall 2022 Quad 2 October 24 - December 18	

Information

Professor: Dr. Samuel M. Powell
Email: spowell@pointloma.edu
Office hours: by appointment as needed.

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course studies major Christian ethical theories and view of the moral life. It also examines contemporary moral issues such as justice, war, peace, work, and family.

INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILO)

- 1. Learning, Informed by our Faith in Christ**
Students will acquire knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world while developing skills and habits of the mind that foster lifelong learning.
- 2. Growing, In a Christ-Centered Faith Community**
Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of others as they negotiate complex professional, environmental and social contexts.
- 3. Serving, In a Context of Christian Faith**
Students will serve locally and/or globally in vocational and social settings.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLO)

After completing the Master of Ministry program, students will be able to:

1. Incorporate Christian formation in the local congregation and the life of the minister. ^{ILO3}
2. Interpret Scripture especially as related to preaching and teaching in the local church. ^{ILO1}
3. Explain the nature, mission, and social context of the Church, especially as related to ecclesial practices and the leadership of the pastor in the local congregation. ^{ILO2}
4. Analyze theology, ethics, and Church history, especially as related to the Wesleyan tradition and contemporary ministry. ^{ILO1}

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The objectives for this course are to:

1. Apply theological and philosophical ethics to nurture faithful living in the Christian community. ^{PLO4}
2. Discern and make ethical decisions in the midst of a complex and/or paradoxical context within a Wesleyan framework. ^{PLO1,PLO4}
3. Practice a moral pastoral leadership, informed by philosophical and theological ethics. ^{PLO1}

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

- Emerson, M.O. & Smith, C. (2001). *Divided by Faith: Evangelical religion and the problem of race in America*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780195147070
- Gundry, S.H., Sprinkle, P., Loader, W., Holmes, S.R., Hill, W., & DeFranza, M.K. (2016). *Two views on homosexuality, the Bible, and the Church*. Zondervan Academic. ISBN: 0310528631
- VanderWal-Gritter, W. (2014). *Generous spaciousness: Responding to gay Christians in the church*. Bazos Press. ISBN: 9781587433559

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

According to PLNU standards, it is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their course work. In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a three unit class delivered over eight weeks. The time expectations for this course are shown below:

Course Time Expectations

Assignment	Average Expected Hours
Discussions	40
Essay Assignments	40

Zoom Meetings	8
Intensive Participation	25

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

This course will operate as a reading seminar course with one week set aside for instruction. Multiple measures of evaluation are used in this course, allowing students opportunities to demonstrate their learning in more than one way, and giving consideration to individual learning styles.

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

1. **Essay Assignments**
 - o There are written assignments due in Weeks 6 through Week 8 of this course. These essay assignments must reflect graduate-level writing and critical thinking.
2. **Discussions**
 - o Each week students will participate in online Discussion Board Posts and Peer Responses with classmates, which are related to the week's readings and content. These discussions emulate the interactive dialogue that occurs in the traditional classroom setting.
3. **Zoom Meetings**

Distribution by Assignment

- Discussions: 12% (8 discussions x 1.5 points)
- Zoom meetings: 12% (8 discussions x 1.5 points)
- Essay 1: 35%
- Essay 2: 15%
- Essay 3: 25%

Your grades will be posted in the Canvas Grades area no later than Tuesday of each week beginning in Week Two of this course. It is important to review instructor responses on assignments as these comments are intended to help you improve your work. Final grades will be posted within ten days of the end of the class.

Final Grade:

At the end of the semester, a letter grade for the course will be based on the following scale:

Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentage of Points Earned

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F ≤ 59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	

	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	
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Traditional letter grades (A, B, C, D, F) including plus and minus grades are used to indicate the level of scholarship earned for each course. Except for the correction of an error, all traditional letter grades are final at the conclusion of the academic term. Once the degree has been posted on the student's official transcript, no change of grade action is allowed for courses leading to the degree.

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

PLNU SPIRITUAL CARE

Bakersfield Campus:

PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end we provide resources for our Graduate students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. At the Bakersfield campus we have an onsite chaplain, Rev. Brent Kall, who is available during class break times across the week. If you have questions, desire to meet or share a prayer request with Rev. Brent Kall, you can contact him directly at bkall@pointloma.edu. Also, there is a weekly Email Newsletter called "The Encourager" that provides a brief devotional and all his contact information.

Balboa Campus:

PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end we provide resources for our graduate students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. At the Balboa campus we have an onsite chaplain, Rev. Kevin Portillo who is available during class break times across the week. If you have questions, desire to meet with Rev. Portillo or prayer requests you can contact him directly at KevinPortillo@pointloma.edu.

Liberty Station Campus:

PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end we provide resources

for our Graduate students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. At the Liberty Station campus we have an onsite chaplain, Rev. Dave Hazel, who is available during class break times across the week. If you have questions, desire to meet or share a prayer request with Rev. Hazel you can contact him directly at dhazel@pointloma.edu or feel free to call or text (913-231-3975).

Mission Valley:

PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end we provide resources for our Graduate students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. At the Mission Valley (MV) campus we have an onsite chaplain, Rev. Gordon Wong, who is available during class break times across the week. If you have questions for, desire to meet or share a prayer request with Rev. Wong you can contact him directly at mcvhaplain@pointloma.edu or gordonwong@pointloma.edu. Rev. Wong's cell number is 808-429-1129 if you need a more immediate response. In addition, on the MV campus there is a prayer chapel on the third floor which is open for use as a space set apart for quiet reflection and prayer.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#)[Links to an external site.](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all **synchronous** class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions (virtual or face-to-face), the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered **asynchronously** and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](#) [Links to an external site.](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND DISCRIMINATION

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students. If you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available through the Title IX Office at pointloma.edu/Title-IX. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, it is required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors at pointloma.edu/title-ix

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use. If a student is in need of technological resources please contact student-tech-request@pointloma.edu.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.