

FALL 2019

Meeting Days: MWF  
Meeting Times: 11:00-11:55 A.M.  
Meeting Location: E 114  
Final Exam: Wednesday, December 18, 10:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Dr. Eric J. Morelli  
(619) 961-5272  
emorelli@pointloma.edu  
Office: BAC 120  
Office Hours: by appt.

#### 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 is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

*The study of right and wrong in principle, character, and conduct; practical moral issues analyzed from the basis of sound moral theory; characteristics of an adequate, consistent code of ethics.*

What should I do? Who should I become? Am I really free? Can I objectively distinguish the good from the bad, the happy from the unhappy, the right from the wrong, the more from the less valuable, and the valuable from the worthless? Is there a way to orient myself in the midst of my interests and activities no matter what the circumstances? In this course we will grapple with these and other pressing questions that arise for us, if usually only on the margins of our consciousness, whenever we seriously consider the fact that we are not just being but doing and, by doing, making ourselves and our world. While pursuing these questions for ourselves, we will get to know major, historical approaches to these questions—eudaimonistic, virtue, deontological, consequentialist, utilitarian, and axiological—and will explore the way in which they arose as successive attempts to answer the questions more accurately and completely.

#### REQUIRED TEXTS

Mark D. Morelli, *Self-Possession: Being at Home in Conscious Performance*. Second Edition.

Los Angeles, CA: Encanto Editions, 2019.

Additional Readings will be distributed on CANVAS.

#### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- *describe* and *explain*, in outline, the history of ethics and, in detail, the ethical theories of several of its pivotal figures (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group work, quizzes, final exam);
- *analyze* and *criticize* ethical situations, questions, reasoning, and diverse perspectives and positions (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group work, experiential assignments, quizzes, final exam);
- *discern* the ethical dimension of everyday life, its invitations to ethical inquiry, and its calls to heroic, ethical living (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group work, experiential assignments, quizzes);
- *apply* your ethical inquiry and study of the history of ethics to historical and current events and their experiences and lives within and beyond the academy (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group work, experiential assignments, quizzes, final exam);
- *express yourself orally and in writing* more clearly, meaningfully, truthfully, and philosophically (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group work, experiential assignments, quizzes, final exam).

#### GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES (GELOS)

*PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and cultures.*

#### Learning: Informed by Our Faith in Christ

Students will:

- *effectively express* ideas and information to others through oral and written communication individually and in groups (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group work, experiential assignments, quizzes);
- *examine, critique* and *synthesize* information to arrive at reasoned conclusions. (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group work, experiential assignments, quizzes, final exam);
- *demonstrate* the effective and responsible use of information from a variety of sources (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group work, quizzes, final exam);

#### Growing: In a Christ-Centered Faith Community

Students will:

- *understand* and *develop a greater respect* for the diversity of human nature and the array of philosophic interests, concerns, questions, and positions (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group activities, reflection papers, quizzes);

- *examine* the complexity of human nature and philosophy in light of the reconciling work of God in Christ (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group work, experiential assignments, quizzes, final exam);

Serving: In a Context of Christian Faith

Students will:

- *engage* in acts of devotion and works of mercy informed by the Christian scriptures and tradition, rooted in local congregations, and expressed as love of God and neighbor in and beyond the classroom (Assessment: participation, reading questions, group work, experiential assignments, quizzes, final exam).

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Attendance/Participation:	5%
Reading Questions:	10%
Group Work:	15%
7 Experiential Assignments:	30%
4 Quizzes:	25%
Final Exam:	15%

GRADING SCALE

A:	100-93	C+:	79-77	D-:	62-60
A-:	92-90	C:	76-73	F:	60-0
B+:	89-87	C-:	72-70		
B:	86-83	D+:	69-67		
B-:	82-80	D:	66-63		

TECHNOLOGY

The use of electronic devices will not be permitted in class. Students are expected to bring a notebook, pen or pencil, and hard copies of the assigned texts to class. If a disability prevents a student from taking notes by hand, the Disability Resource Center may facilitate accommodations (See “PLNU Accommodations Policy” below).

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.

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

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](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

#### PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic adjustments, modifications or auxiliary aids/services. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. ([DRC@pointloma.edu](mailto:DRC@pointloma.edu) or 619-849-2486). The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 (a) prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. The DRC will thereafter email the student's AP to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify their professor in that course. PLNU highly recommends that DRC students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not desire to take advantage of some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

#### PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in 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. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

#### INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

The School of Theology and Christian Ministry is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, the school urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussion, and in their writings. Thus, terms like “man” or “mankind” or the pronoun “he,” should not be used to refer to all humans. Instead “people,” “humanity,” “humans,” and “he or she” better acknowledge women as full persons.

### CALENDAR

#### September

- 4      Wednesday    Introduction
- 6      Friday          Being Oneself; Ethics as Self-Knowledge  
**Reading for Monday**      *Self-Possession*, Prologue and Chapter One
- 9      Monday        A Basic Commitment; Six Basic Notions  
**Reading for Wednesday**    *Self-Possession*, Chapter Two
- 11     Wednesday    Attending to Conscious Performance 1  
**Reading for Friday**        *Self-Possession*, Chapter Three
- 13     Friday          Attending to Conscious Performance 2  
**Reading for Monday**       *Self-Possession*, Chapter Four
- 16     Monday        Discerning Order in Conscious Performance  
**Reading for Wednesday**    *Self-Possession*, Chapter Five, pp. 111-127
- 18     Wednesday    Order in Conscious Performance  
**Reading for Friday**        *Self-Possession*, Chapter Five, pp. 127-153
- 20     Friday          Four Basic Moods of Conscious Performance  
**Reading for Monday**       *Self-Possession*, Chapter Five, pp. 153-170
- 23     Monday        **Quiz**; Four Modes of Conscious Operation  
**Reading for Wednesday**    *Self-Possession*, Chapter Five, pp. 153-170
- 25     Wednesday    CPA Workshop: Being Attentive; Being Intelligent  
**Assignment for Monday**    “Designing and Using a Heuristic Image”

- 27 Friday CPA Workshop: Being Reasonable; Being Responsible
- 30 Monday CPA Workshop: Designing and Using a Heuristic Image  
**Reading for Wednesday** "Aristotle" (On CANVAS)  
**Assignment for Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup>** "Identifying the Four Moods"

October

- 2 Wednesday *Eudaimonia*  
**Reading for Friday** "Aristotle" (On CANVAS)
- 4 Friday *Arete*  
**Reading for Monday** "Aristotle" (On CANVAS)
- 7 Monday *Philia*  
**Reading for Wednesday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 6
- 9 Wednesday Motifs of Conscious Performance  
**Reading for Friday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 7  
**Assignment for Wednesday** "Dinner with Friends"
- 11 Friday The Practical Motif  
**Reading for Monday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 8
- 14 Monday **Quiz**; The Intellectual Motif
- 16 Wednesday CPA Workshop: "Dinner with Friends"  
**Reading for Friday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 9  
**Assignment for Wednesday** "Museum Date"
- 18 Friday The Aesthetic Motif  
**Reading for Monday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 10
- 21 Monday The Dramatic Motif
- 23 Wednesday CPA Workshop: "Museum Date"  
**Reading for Monday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 11
- 28 Monday The Mystical Motif  
**Reading for Wednesday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 12; "Anselm" (On CANVAS)

30 Wednesday Mixing and Blending Motifs; The Ontological Argument  
**Reading for Friday** "Kant and Mill" (On CANVAS)

November

1 Friday The Categorical Imperative  
**Reading for Monday** "Kant and Mill" (On CANVAS)

4 Monday **Quiz**; Autonomy  
**Reading for Wednesday** "Kant and Mill" (On CANVAS)

6 Wednesday Freedom  
**Reading for Friday** "Kant and Mill" (On CANVAS)

8 Friday Utilitarianism  
**Reading for Monday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 13

11 Monday The High Drama, Major and Minor Authenticity  
**Reading for Wednesday** "Scheler, Von Hildebrand, Arendt, Lonergan"  
(On CANVAS)

13 Wednesday Scheler's Value Hierarchy  
**Reading for Friday** "Scheler, Von Hildebrand, Arendt, Lonergan"  
(On CANVAS)

15 Friday *Ressentiment*  
**Reading for Monday** "Scheler, Von Hildebrand, Arendt, Lonergan"  
(On CANVAS)

18 Monday Satisfactions and Values; The Banality of Evil  
**Reading for Wednesday** "Scheler, Von Hildebrand, Arendt, Lonergan"  
(On CANVAS)

20 Wednesday The Human Good  
**Reading for Friday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 14, pp. 265-279

22 Friday Unreflective and Spontaneous Performance  
**Reading for Monday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 14, pp. 279-295

25 Monday **Quiz**; Reflective and Deliberate Performance  
**Assignment for Monday** "What Sort of Conscious Performer Am I?"

December

- 2 Monday CPA Workshop: "What Sort of Conscious Performer Am I?"  
**Reading for Wednesday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 14, pp. 295-303
- 4 Wednesday Defining the Basic Notions Heuristically  
**Reading for Friday** *Self-Possession*, Chapter 14, pp. 304-309  
**Assignment for Friday** "What Sort of Conscious Performer Should I Be?"
- 6 Friday CPA Workshop: "What Sort of Conscious Performer Should I Be?"  
**Assignment for Monday** "How Can I Become the Sort of Conscious Performer I Should to Be?"
- 9 Monday CPA Workshop: "How Can I Become the Sort of Conscious Performer I Should Be?"
- 11 Wednesday CPA Workshop: "How Can I Become the Sort of Conscious Performer I Should Be?"
- 13 Friday Review
- 16 Monday **Final** from 7:30-10:00 AM