

<b>Course Name</b>	Philosophy of Knowledge and Ethics				
<b>Course ID</b>	06870				
<b>Area &amp; Cat No.</b>	PHIL 1001				
<b>Units</b>	4.5	<b>Career</b>	UG	<b>BUGE</b>	Yes/No?
<b>School</b>	SWP	<b>Campus(es)</b>	Magill, Whyalla	<b>FOE</b>	ASU
<b>Components</b>	Lecture, Tutorial	<b>Mode</b>	Internal/External	<b>Final Exam</b>	No
<b>Syllabus Plus</b>	Yes/No?				

**Prerequisite(s)** None

### Aim

To invite the student into an appreciation of the traditional discourse of ideas that form the basis of contemporary social and ethical theory with a particular emphasis on Human Rights.

On completion of this course students should be able to:

- develop a logical argument;
- demonstrate an understanding of the Rationalist intellectual tradition;
- demonstrate an understanding of the Empiricist intellectual tradition
- discover ethical positions and practice within a history of ethical theory;
- apply insights into ethical theory to mainstream ethical problems.
- Articulate the logical basis for the concept “Human Rights”.
- Articulate the contemporary challenges to the Enlightenment definitions of “Human Rights”
- The “Universalist verses Relativist view of Human Rights.

By undertaking this course, students will progress in the development of the following qualities:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Graduate quality	Body of knowledge	Lifelong learning	Effective problem solving	Work alone and in teams	Ethical action	Communicate effectively	International perspective
Indicative unit weighting	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.5

### Syllabus

Rules of logic; development of logical argument; origins of the rationalism v. empiricism debate; Plato v. Aristotle; development of Rational tradition to Descartes; applications to ethical theory; cultural relativism; utilitarianism; absolute deontological ethics; ethics in a post-modern discourse; the rise of a broad based cultural critique of the concept of ‘Human Rights’; Universalism verses Relativism; Women’s Rights; the clash of rights.

### Teaching and learning arrangements

This course will be delivered using the following means:

A weekly by 13 weeks one hour lecture celebrating the development of the several themes of intellectual tradition.

A weekly 90 minute tutorial where students are encouraged to develop a personal understanding of these ideas.

In External Mode a study guide has been developed to replace the lectures, assessed workbook assignments replace the tutorial activity and the other assessment is the same.

### Assessment

Preliminary Essay – focus on Logical argument 1000 words	15%
Mid-Semester Exam	40%
Application of Ethical Theory Essay 2000 words	45%

### Textbook(s)

DeLaet, Debra , *The Global Struggle for Human Rights*, Thomson Wordsworth, Belmont Ca. 2006

### References

- Stewart, David and Blocker, H. Gene, *The Fundamentals of Philosophy, 6<sup>th</sup> Ed.*, Pearson Prentice Hall, New Jersey 2006.
- Birsch, Douglas, *Ethical Insights 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.* , McGraw Hill, New York 2002.
- Hayden, Patrick, *The Philosophy of Human Rights*, Paragon House, St Paul MN. 2001

### Course coordinator

Robert Iseman at Magill Campus / Tomm Tice at Whyalla Campus.