

NVCC COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY

PHI 225 - SELECTED PROBLEMS IN APPLIED ETHICS (3 CR.)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Analyzes and discusses significant contemporary ethical issues and problems existing throughout the various professions such as business, medicine, law, education, journalism, and public affairs. May be repeated for credit. Lecture 3 hours per week.

GENERAL COURSE PURPOSE

To introduce the student to specific problems in professional ethics by using a case studies approach. To analyze actual cases dealing with ethical issues, and to examine moral theories as they address specific dilemmas.

ENTRY LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

None

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, the student will be able to analyze and critically evaluate the problems selected for analysis. The student will be able to identify general issues and principles derived from the analysis of these issues. The student will understand the role of argument and analysis in ethical decision making, particularly as it applies to the issues of professional ethics.

MAJOR ELEMENTS OF CONTENT

The specific topics to be addressed will be further defined by the instructor of this course, but must include specific contemporary ethical issues occurring in the professions. Issues in one area of professional concern may be addressed, or the problems may include issues from several areas. Possible topics might include cases concerning:

- A. Whistle-blowing, workplace conditions, conflicts of interest.
- B. Advertising, marketing, warranties.
- C. Human health and safety, preservation of animal rights, wilderness, etc.
- D. Issues of discrimination and reverse discrimination.
- E. Public policy and cost-benefit analyses.
- F. Self-regulation and professional codes.
- G. Conflicts in national mores for businesses and governments engaged in international commerce.
- H. The adversarial system of justice.
- I. Privileged information and the public good.
- J. Lying to obtain information for the public good.

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