Course Description

NTU undergraduates have moral/ethical duties as participants in an institution of higher learning, as citizens of a diverse nation, and as human beings in co-existence with others. HY0001 is a 1 AU GER online learning course designed to provide NTU undergraduates with an opportunity to analyze and appreciate basic moral/ethical values such as benevolence, impartiality, and integrity. These basic values will be explored from the perspective of several leading ethical theories in contemporary moral philosophy. The ethical theories will serve as benchmarks to facilitate critical thinking on issues that raise difficult moral questions. Students will be challenged to articulate reasoned answers to these moral questions. Also, exercises in moral reasoning will be carried out through a comprehensive study of academic integrity and research ethics. The course will conclude with a discussion of the importance of ethics in thinking about efforts to sustain the natural environment.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the term, you (the student) will be able to:

- Identify the morally relevant features of situations, decisions, and policies, and articulate what makes those features morally relevant.
- Assess whether a moral claim is well-supported by a moral argument.
- Discuss and explain the moral reasons behind rules of Academic Integrity.

Course Designers

Ms. Yong-Ai (Grace) Boey, NTU Philosophy Programme
Asst. Prof. Christina Chuang, NTU Philosophy Programme
Asst. Prof. Preston Huw Richards Greene, NTU Philosophy Programme
Asst. Prof. Andrés Luco, NTU Philosophy Programme
Dr. Shen-yi (Sam) Liao

- with contributions from the NTU Teaching, Learning and Pedagogy Division (TLPD)
- and technical assistance by the NTU Centre for Information Technology Services (CITS)
Course Administrators

Asst. Prof. Andrés Luco will be responsible for the day-to-day management of HY0001.

Who to Contact

If you have questions about the organization of the course, please email Asst. Prof. Andrés Luco (acluco@ntu.edu.sg).

If you experience any technical problems with the online interface, please contact the CITS Service Desk (servicedesk@ntu.edu.sg).

Please do not send any emails with questions about the concepts or theories taught in the lessons. As this is a very large course with thousands of students enrolled in it, the administrator will not be able to answer such questions.

Course Content

HY0001 is an online course. As such, all course content will be delivered online, and you will complete all assignments online.

- **NTULearn:**

  The main portal to access the course content is the NTULearn website for HY0001. All students registered for HY0001 will have access to the NTULearn site.

  Log in to NTULearn at https://ntulearn.ntu.edu.sg/webapps/login/.

- **LAMS Lesson Sequences:**

  On the NTULearn website, there is a series of “lesson sequences.” The platform for these lesson sequences is a program called the Learning Activity Management System (or “LAMS”).

  The course content is delivered through a total of 14 LAMS lesson sequences. The lesson sequences contain video lectures, activities, multiple-choice quizzes, readings, and discussion questions.

  The lesson sequences must be completed in order. For instance: before you can complete lesson sequence 3, you have to complete sequence 2. With the exception of the Conclusion (lesson sequence 13b), each lesson sequence will take on average 1 hour to complete.
Lecture Notes:

Embedded in the LAMS lessons sequences are a number of video lectures. The Powerpoint slides used in these lectures are published on NTULearn under “Lecture Notes.” The Powerpoint files also contain additional notes not shown in the video lecture. It’s recommended that you review the lecture notes on NTULearn before taking the multiple choice quizzes.

Readings:

Readings for the course are posted on NTULearn under “Readings.” Most of the readings are only recommended for those students who seek a deeper understanding of a topic. The specific contents of recommended readings will not be tested.

However, some readings are required. Required readings are highlighted on the NTULearn website for HY0001, and are also flagged in the LAMS lesson sequences.

Assignments

HY0001 is a 1 AU (academic unit) course. This means that students should expect to devote approximately 1 hour of study per week to this course (in a semester of 13 teaching weeks). Please plan your schedules wisely.

In the coming semester, you are to complete the following assignments by the appropriate deadline (assignment deadlines are listed below):

- One response (minimum 300 words) to a discussion question from one of the lessons. Detailed instructions for this assignment are given in the lesson sequences.

- One peer evaluation (minimum 100 words) of another student’s response to a discussion question from a previous lesson. Detailed instructions for this assignment are given in the lesson sequences.

- Completion of all 14 online LAMS lesson sequences (i.e., Sequence 1 through 13b).

- Completion of 12 multiple-choice quizzes (MCQs). 12 of the 14 lesson sequences have a multiple-choice quiz at the end. For those lesson sequences that contain a quiz, you must complete the quiz in order to complete the lesson sequence. Each quiz has 10 questions. You will be required to answer 7 of 10 questions correctly on each quiz before advancing to the next lesson sequence. You can re-take the quiz as many times as is necessary to pass and advance to the next lesson sequence.

Clear instructions on how to submit the assignments will be provided in the LAMS lesson sequences.
Assessment

The course is graded on a Pass/Fail basis.

Assignments will count toward the final grade as follows:

- Response to discussion question: 10% of final grade
- Peer evaluation: 5% of final grade
- Completion of all 14 LAMS lesson sequences: 15% of final grade
- 12 multiple-choice quizzes: 70% of final grade

Division of Students into Groups

To avoid overloading the system, students in HY0001 are divided into two groups: Group 1 and Group 2. There are two differences between the groups. The first difference is the deadline for the response to the discussion question. Members of Group 1 will submit their response during the first half of the semester, and members of Group 2 will submit their response during the second half of the semester. The second difference is that different discussion questions are assigned to each group. Each member of Group 1 will submit one 300-word response to a discussion question from Sequences 2 – 6. Each member of Group 2 will submit one 300-word response to a discussion question from Sequences 7 – 11.

You can find out which group you belong to by checking the name of the folder on NTULearn which contains the lesson sequences. You’ll also receive email reminders of which group you belong to.

Assignment Deadlines and Extension Policy

The deadlines for the assignments are as follows:

- All 14 LAMS lesson sequences and all 12 MCQs must be completed by 15 April 2016. You will not be able to complete all the lesson sequences without also completing all the quizzes.
- Members of Group 1 must submit their 300-word discussion question response between 11 January 2016 and 19 February 2016.
- Members of Group 2 must submit their 300-word discussion question response between 22 February 2016 and 24 March 2016.
- All students must submit their 100-word peer evaluations between 28 March 2016 and 15 April 2016.

The deadlines listed above will be strictly enforced. Members of Group 1 will not receive credit for discussion question responses submitted after 19 February 2016. Members of Group 2 will
not receive credit for discussion question responses submitted before 22 February or after 24 March 2016. No student will be credited for peer evaluations submitted after 15 April 2016.

Extensions will be granted only to those students who can give proof of medical illness or bereavement that prevents the timely completion of an assignment. Students must follow official procedures to apply for either medical leave or compassionate leave (not a short leave of absence). Click [here](#) for details on how to apply for medical or compassionate leave.

**Course Outline**

Below is an overview of the topics and theories covered in HY0001.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson Sequence</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Application</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sequence 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Ethics and Moral Reasoning</td>
<td>• <em>Recommended:</em> James Rachels and Stuart Rachels, “What is Morality” (download from NTULearn)</td>
<td>• Thinking through moral questions (abortion, euthanasia, vegetarianism, the environment)</td>
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<td>Sequence 5</td>
<td>Deontology Part 2</td>
<td>• <strong>Recommended:</strong> Onora O’neill, “Kantian Approaches to Some Famine Problems” (download from NTULearn)</td>
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<td>Sequence 6</td>
<td>Virtue Ethics Part 1</td>
<td>• <strong>Recommended:</strong> Nafsika Athanassoulis, “Virtue Ethics,” sections 1 – 4, <a href="http://www.iep.utm.edu/virtue/">http://www.iep.utm.edu/virtue/</a></td>
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<td>• Corporate accountability and whistle-blowing</td>
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<td>Sequence 7</td>
<td>Virtue Ethics Part 2</td>
<td>• <strong>Recommended:</strong> Nafsika Athanassoulis, “Virtue Ethics,” sections 1 – 4, <a href="http://www.iep.utm.edu/virtue/">http://www.iep.utm.edu/virtue/</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Case studies in academic integrity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sequence 9</td>
<td>Academic Integrity Part 2</td>
<td>• <strong>REQUIRED:</strong> NTU, “A Guide to Academic Integrity,” <a href="http://www.ntu.edu.sg/ai/ForEveryone/Pages/AGuidetoAcademicIntegrity.aspx">http://www.ntu.edu.sg/ai/ForEveryone/Pages/AGuidetoAcademicIntegrity.aspx</a></td>
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<td>• <strong>REQUIRED:</strong> NTU, “Shared Values and Honour Code,” <a href="http://www.ntu.edu.sg/ai/ForEveryone/Pages/SharedValuesHonourCode.aspx">http://www.ntu.edu.sg/ai/ForEveryone/Pages/SharedValuesHonourCode.aspx</a></td>
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<td>• <strong>REQUIRED:</strong> NTU Academic Integrity Policy, <a href="http://www.ntu.edu.sg/ai/ForEveryone/Pages/NTUAcademicIntegrityPolicy.aspx">http://www.ntu.edu.sg/ai/ForEveryone/Pages/NTUAcademicIntegrityPolicy.aspx</a></td>
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<td>Sequence 11</td>
<td>Research Ethics</td>
<td>• <strong>Recommended:</strong> University of Minnesota Center for Bioethics, “A Guide to Research Ethics,” <a href="http://www.ahc.umn.edu/img/assets/26104/Research_Ethics.pdf">http://www.ahc.umn.edu/img/assets/26104/Research_Ethics.pdf</a></td>
<td>• Applying ethical principles for the care and use of human and animal subjects in research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sequence 13b</td>
<td>Conclusion</td>
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