

## PHIL 430 (A01)/PHIL 534 (A01): Feminist Ethics

Mon & Thurs, 10:00-11:20, Clearihue Building B315

CRN: 12689/12692



Feminist Ethics is not its own 'theory' of ethics but is best understood as a way of *doing* ethics. Although feminist philosophical thinking began much earlier, feminist ethics as an academic discipline emerged with feminist political movements around the 1970s. This course surveys a range of feminist perspectives in ethics beginning at that time, focusing less on feminists' engagement with dominant ethical theories (e.g., social contract theory, utilitarianism, and Kantian ethics) and more on how feminists have envisioned and practiced a different way of doing ethics.



Dr. Katie Stockdale ([katiestockdale@uvic.ca](mailto:katiestockdale@uvic.ca))



My office hours are Monday & Thursday, 11:30-12:30, and by appointment. You can find me in Clearihue B312.



You are welcome to visit me in office hours any time. If you cannot make my office hours, please feel free to email me to request an appointment (in person or by Zoom). I do my very best to reply to emails within 24 hours but please note that I generally do not reply to emails on evenings or weekends. My pronouns are she/her; please feel free to let me know your name/pronouns as well.



This course is *in-person only*. Class attendance is required, and classes will not be recorded.



Our course website is on Brightspace.



All required readings will be available on the course website.

*Territory Acknowledgement:* We acknowledge and respect the ɫə̀kʷə̀ŋə̀n peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

## Evaluation<sup>1</sup>:

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A	B	C	D	F
Superior 90-100 (A+)	Good 77-79 (B+)	Adequate 65-69 (C+)	Minimal 50-59	Inadequate 0-49
85-89 (A)	73-76 (B)	60-64 (C)		
80-84 (A-)	70-72 (B-)			



Participation	10%
Critical Response Paper # 1	20%
Critical Response Paper # 2	20%
Final Paper Proposal	20%
Final Paper	30%



All students have one no-questions-asked extension to use on any assignment. Extensions are for 3 days following the deadline. *You do not need to ask whether you may use your free extension.* Just write 'free extension' at the top of your assignment and hand it in by the extended deadline. After the free extension is used, I will not grant extensions with the exception of serious illness or personal emergency (e.g., hospitalization; death in the family). All other late assignments will receive a deduction of 5% per day (including weekend days).

## Course Policies:

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**Accessibility:** Students with diverse learning styles and needs are very welcome in this course. If you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Resource Centre for Accessible Learning as soon as possible. Staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.<sup>2</sup>



**Academic integrity** is intellectual honesty and responsibility for academic work that you submit. It involves commitment to the values of honesty, trust, and responsibility. It is expected that students will respect these ethical values in all activities related to learning, teaching, research, and service. Therefore, plagiarism and other acts against academic integrity are serious academic offences.

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<sup>1</sup> For further detail, see <https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/index.php#/policy/S1AAgoGuV>

<sup>2</sup> For further information, see <https://www.uvic.ca/info/accessibility/index.php>

### The responsibility of the institution

Instructors and academic units have the responsibility to ensure that standards of academic honesty are met. By doing so, the institution recognizes students for their hard work and assures them that other students do not have an unfair advantage through cheating on essays, exams, and projects.

### The responsibility of the student

Plagiarism sometimes occurs due to a misunderstanding regarding the rules of academic integrity, but it is the student's responsibility to know them. If you are unsure about the standards for citations or for referencing your sources, ask your instructor.<sup>3</sup> Depending on the severity of the case, penalties include a warning, a failing grade, a record on the student's transcript, or a suspension. The University's policy on academic integrity is not limited to plagiarism. Hiring an editor for your assignment without the instructor's approval, submitting a paper from the Internet, and having someone else write even parts of your paper are examples of academic dishonesty. You should review this policy in detail.<sup>4</sup>



All course content and materials are made available by instructors for educational purposes and for the exclusive use of students registered in their class. Material is protected under copyright law, even if not marked with a ©. Any further use or distribution of materials to others requires written permission of the instructor, except under fair dealing or another exception in the Copyright Act.<sup>5</sup> Violations may result in disciplinary action under the Resolution of Non-Academic Misconduct Allegations policy (AC1300).<sup>6</sup> Evidence that you are circulating materials without permission will be referred to the Chair of the Philosophy Department for investigation.



The University is committed to promoting critical academic discourse while providing a respectful and supportive learning environment. All members of the university community have the right to this experience, and the responsibility to help create such an environment. *The University will not tolerate racism, sexualized violence, or any form of discrimination, bullying or harassment.* Please be advised that by logging into UVic's learning systems and interacting with online resources you are engaging in a university activity. All interactions within this environment are subject to the university expectations and policies. Any concerns about student conduct, may be reviewed and responded to in accordance with the appropriate university policy. To report concerns about online student conduct: [onlineconduct@uvic.ca](mailto:onlineconduct@uvic.ca).

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<sup>3</sup> For more information, see <https://www.uvic.ca/library/help/citation/plagiarism/index.php>

<sup>4</sup> For more information, see <https://www.uvic.ca/students/academics/academic-integrity/index.php>

<sup>5</sup> For more information, see <https://www.uvic.ca/library/featured/copyright/>

<sup>6</sup> For more information, see <https://www.uvic.ca/universitysecretary/assets/docs/policies/AC1300.pdf>

Course Outline\*:

\*Any changes to the schedule and/or course readings will be announced in class and on Brightspace.

<b>Welcome!</b>	W1: Sept. 7	No readings.
<b>Moral Theorizing</b>	W2: Sept. 11	Genevieve Lloyd, "The Man of Reason"
	W2: Sept. 14	Hilde Lindemann, "Standard Moral Theories from a Feminist Perspective"
	W3: Sept. 18	Carol Gilligan, "Moral Orientation and Moral Development"
	W3: Sept. 21	Annette Baier, "What Do Women Want in a Moral Theory?"
<b>Moral Understandings</b>	W4: Sept. 25	Michele Moody-Adams, "Gender and the Complexity of Moral Voices"
	W4: Sept. 28	Maria Lugones and Elizabeth Spelman, "Have We Got a Theory For You! Feminist Theory, Cultural Imperialism, and the Demand for 'the Woman's Voice'" Audre Lorde, "The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House"
	W5: Oct. 2	Margaret Urban Walker, "Seeing Power in Morality: A Proposal for Feminist Naturalism in Ethics"
	W5: Oct. 5	Margaret Olivia Little, "Seeing and Caring: The Role of Affect in Feminist Moral Epistemology" <b>Critical Response Paper # 1 due Oct. 6, 11:59pm.</b>
<b>Oppression &amp; Intersectionality</b>	W6: Oct. 9	THANKSGIVING
	W6: Oct. 12	Marilyn Frye, "Oppression" Iris Marion Young, "Five Faces of Oppression"
	W7: Oct. 16	Kimberlé Crenshaw, "Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory, and Antiracist Politics"
	W7: Oct. 19	Serene Khader, "Intersectionality and the Ethics of Transnational Commercial Surrogacy"
<b>Personhood</b>	W8: Oct. 23	Eva Kittay, "At the Margins of Moral Personhood"
	W8: Oct. 26	Susan Sherwin, "Abortion through a Feminist Ethics Lens" Curtis Boyd and Glenna Halvorson-Boyd, "Abortion as an Act of Conscience" <b>Critical Response Paper # 2 due Oct. 27, 11:59pm.</b>
	W9: Oct. 30	Hilde Lindemann, "Calling the Fetus into Personhood"

**Respect &  
Responsibility**

- W9: Nov. 2 Robin Dillon, "Toward a Feminist Conception of Self-Respect"
- W10: Nov. 6 Cheshire Calhoun, "Responsibility and Reproach"  
W10: Nov. 9 Jules Holroyd, "Oppressive Praise"
- W11: Nov. 13 Carol Hay, "The Obligation to Resist Oppression"  
W11: Nov. 16 Daniel Silvermint, "Resistance and Well-being"  
***Final Paper Proposal due Nov. 17, 11:59pm.***
- W12: Nov. 20 Heather Widdows, "No Duty to Resist: Why Individual Resistance is an Ineffective Response to Dominant Beauty Ideals"
- W12: Nov. 23 Barrett Emerick, "Love and Resistance: Moral Solidarity in the Face of Perceptual Failure"
- W13: Nov. 27 TBD – class decides.  
W13: Nov. 30 Writing Workshop.
- W14: Dec. 4 No class- invitation to attend Dr. Stockdale's public lecture (Zoom) for Auburn University.  
***Final Paper due Dec. 8, 11:59pm.***