Course Prefix and Number: PHI 220

Course Title: Ethics

Course Description: Provides a systematic study of representative ethical systems.
Prerequisites: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: To provide a humanities elective which focuses on critical reading, writing, and thinking.

Course Objectives:
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:
a. Explain and to apply the criteria that are used in making and evaluating normative judgments of human actions, experiences, policies, and institutions.
b. Give an account and explanation for the rise and persistence of the institution of morality in cultures.
c. Describe and critique the major proposals for supporting moral decisions without rules and with rules.
d. Show the difficulties faced by egoism as a workable standard for moral decisions.
e. Give an account of value and of obligation.
f. Give an account of practical argument/reasoning about what ought to be done.

Major Topics to be Included:
1. Moral Judgments: Human desires and conflict; judgments of moral obligation (actions), moral value (persons), general value (interests and experiences).
2. Moral Theories: Theories of moral obligation (deontology and teleology); theories of moral value (person worth, merit worth); free will, moral responsibility; theories of general value (hedonism and agathism).
3. Critique of Moral Reasoning: Language of moral judgments and theories (definism, intuitionism, noncognitivism, ideal observer); relativism; the moral point of view.

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: Spring, 2014