

# VALUES 495 – Ethics in Practice

## Capstone Course

Spring Term 2016

Location: SAV 408

Time: Thursday 1:30-3:20pm on Mar 31, Apr 21, May 12, and June 2

Instructor: Carina Fourie

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Office hours: Tue 1:00-3:00 PM or by appointment, 389 Savery Hall

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In this course you will be applying ethical reasoning to a community project. You will identify and engage with a practical project over the course of the quarter, and reflect on the values underlying the project through presentations and written work. You have two choices in terms of the projects:

- ✚ you could choose to do a **service learning project** aimed at helping the community (e.g. volunteering, interning) or,
- ✚ you could develop an **independent project**, which aims at social change and involves significant fieldwork.

In choosing a project, what is most important is that it helps you and the community around you.

A number of students come to the course with an idea for developing a project. If you already have some ideas about the project you would like to be involved in, let's discuss it and we can decide if it is suitable.

If you are not sure what you would like to do, you can gather ideas for projects from the following websites:

- ✚ <http://www.seattleworks.org/>
- ✚ <http://washpirgstudents.org/>
- ✚ <http://www.seattle.gov/services-and-information/volunteering-and-participating>

We will also arrange a visit from the **Carlson School** at UW during the first week of the quarter and this can help you to identify a suitable project.



## **i. Summary of requirements:**

Your grade is based on your actual engagement with the project and your reflections on the ethical considerations underlying the project.

### **+ Service learning option:**

- Initial summary (around 600 words): 10%
- Service learning hours (around 10-20 hours): 70%
- Written report (around 3 pages): 10%
- Presentation of written report (around 10 minutes): 10%

### **+ Independent project:**

- Initial summary (around 600 words): 10%
- Written report (around 15 pages): 70%
- Presentation of written report (around 10 minutes): 20%

## **ii. Meetings & important dates**

We will meet 4 times during the academic quarter. Depending on topics that come up during the course of the quarter, I may ask you to read papers or extracts from books to help prepare for class or for your summaries and reports.

### Mar 31: Introductory meeting

- Discussion of interests
- Discussion of course structure
- Setting expectations
- Discussion of project resources
- Meeting with the Carlson School Representative

*By 10 April, identify and get approval for project*

### Apr 21: Project Discussion

- Presentation of initial summaries
- Discussion of summaries
- Discussion related to the implementation of the project
- Preliminary discussion of written report

*Initial summaries to be submitted for grading*

### May 12: Project Discussion

- Ongoing discussion of projects
- Discussion of written reports

### Jun 2: Concluding meeting

- Presentation of written reports
- Discussion of reports and projects overall
- Course evaluations

*Written reports to be submitted for grading*

### **iii. Class expectations and environment**

I expect all students to read any required materials in advance, to attend class, to participate, to treat others' views with respect, and to complete all the assignments. The course is an opportunity to discuss, assess and experiment with ideas in an open and mutually respectful environment.

### **iv. Student information**

This course is run according to the UW Department of Philosophy's policies. You must read the summary of our policies, on the next two pages of this document (pgs. 4-5).

For students with disabilities, you can request information or disability accommodation through the Disabled Students Services (Seattle campus) at (206) 543-8924/V, (206) 543-8925/TTY, (206) 616-8379/Fax, or e-mail at [uwdss@u.washington.edu](mailto:uwdss@u.washington.edu).

For information on safety on campus for all students, please view the UW Safe Campus website: <http://www.washington.edu/safecampus/>.

**UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS\***

**COURSES, GRADING, ACADEMIC CONDUCT**

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is defined as the use of creations, ideas or words of publicly available work without formally acknowledging the author or source through appropriate use of quotation marks, references, and the like. Plagiarizing is presenting someone else's work as one's own original work or thought. This constitutes plagiarism whether it is intentional or unintentional. The University of Washington takes plagiarism very seriously. Plagiarism may lead to disciplinary action by the University against the student who submitted the work. Any student who is uncertain whether his or her use of the work of others constitutes plagiarism should consult the course instructor for guidance before formally submitting the course work involved.

*(Sources: UW Graduate School Style Manual; UW Bothell Catalog; UW Student Conduct Code)*

**Incompletes**

An incomplete is given only when the student has been in attendance and has done satisfactory work until within two weeks of the end of the quarter and has furnished proof satisfactory to the instructor that the work cannot be completed because of illness or other circumstances beyond the student's control.

*(Source: UW General Catalog Online, "Student Guide/Grading")*

**Grade Appeal Procedure**

A student who believes he or she has been improperly graded must first discuss the matter with the instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the instructor's explanation, the student may submit a written appeal to the chair of the Department of Philosophy with a copy of the appeal also sent to the instructor. The chair consults with the instructor to ensure that the evaluation of the student's performance has not been arbitrary or capricious. Should the chair believe the instructor's conduct to be arbitrary or capricious and the instructor declines to revise the grade, the chair, with the approval of the voting members of his or her faculty, shall appoint an appropriate member, or members, of the faculty of the Department of Philosophy to evaluate the performance of the student and assign a grade. The Dean and Provost should be informed of this action. Once a student submits a written appeal, this document and all subsequent actions on this appeal are recorded in written form for deposit in a School file.

*(Source: UW General Catalog Online, "Student Guide/Grading")*

**Concerns about a Course, an Instructor, or a Teaching Assistant**

If you have any concerns about a Philosophy course or your instructor, please see the instructor about these concerns as soon as possible. If you are not comfortable talking with the instructor or not satisfied with the response that you receive, you may contact the chair of the program offering the course (names available from the Department of Philosophy, 361 Savery Hall).

If you have any concerns about a teaching assistant, please see the teaching assistant about these concerns as soon as possible. If you are not comfortable talking with the teaching assistant or not satisfied with the response that you receive, you may contact the instructor in charge of the course.

If you are still not satisfied with the response that you receive, you may contact the chair of the program offering the course (names available from the Department of Philosophy, 361 Savery Hall), or the Graduate School at G-1 Communications Building (543-5900).

*\* Adapted from material prepared by the UW Department of History and used with permission.*

For your reference, these procedures are posted on a Philosophy bulletin board outside the Department of Philosophy main office on the 3rd floor of Savery Hall.

## **POLICIES, RULES, RESOURCES**

### **Equal Opportunity**

The University of Washington reaffirms its policy of equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran in accordance with University of Washington policy and applicable federal and state statutes and regulations.

### **Disability Accommodation**

The University of Washington is committed to providing access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. For information or to request disability accommodation contact: Disabled Students Services (Seattle campus) at (206) 543-8924/V, (206) 543-8925/TTY, (206) 616-8379/Fax, or e-mail at [uwdss@u.washington.edu](mailto:uwdss@u.washington.edu); Bothell Student Affairs at (425) 352-5000/V; (425) 352-5303/TTY, (425) 352-5335/Fax, or e-mail at [uwbothel@u.washington.edu](mailto:uwbothel@u.washington.edu); Tacoma Student Services at (253) 552-4000/V, (253) 552-4413/TTY, (253) 552-4414/Fax.

### **Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment is defined as the use of one's authority or power, either explicitly or implicitly, to coerce another into unwanted sexual relations or to punish another for his or her refusal, or as the creation by a member of the University community of an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or educational environment through verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

If you believe that you are being harassed, seek help—the earlier the better. You may speak with your instructor, your teaching assistant, the undergraduate advisor (363 Savery Hall), graduate program assistant (366 Savery Hall), or the chair of the Philosophy Department (364 Savery Hall). In addition, you should be aware that the University has designated special people to help you. They are: University Ombudsman and Ombudsman for Sexual Harassment (for complaints involving faculty members and teaching assistants) Susan Neff, 301 Student Union (HUB), 543-6028; and the University Complaint Investigation and Resolution Office, 616-2028.

*(Sources: UW Graduate School, CIDR, Office of the President)*

### **Office of Scholarly Integrity**

The Office of Scholarly Integrity is housed in the Office of the Vice-Provost. The Office of Scholarly Integrity assumes responsibility for investigating and resolving allegations of scientific and scholarly misconduct by faculty, students, and staff of the University of Washington. The Office of Scholarly Integrity coordinates, in consultation and cooperation with the Schools and Colleges, inquiries and investigations into allegations of scientific and scholarly misconduct. The Office of Scholarly Integrity is responsible for compliance with reporting requirements established by various Federal and other funding agencies in matters of scientific or scholarly misconduct. The Office of Scholarly Integrity maintains all records resulting from inquiries and investigations of such allegations. University rules (Handbook, Vol. II, Section 25-51, Executive Order #61) define scientific and scholarly misconduct to include the following forms of inappropriate activities: intentional misrepresentation of credentials; falsification of data; plagiarism; abuse of confidentiality; deliberate violation of regulations applicable to research. Students can report cases of scientific or scholarly misconduct either to the Office of Scholarly Integrity, to their faculty adviser, or the department chair. The student should report such problems to whomever he or she feels most comfortable.

*(Sources: UW web page (<http://www.grad.washington.edu/OSI/osi.htm>); minutes of Grad School Executive Staff and Division Heads meeting, 7/23/98)*