

MAY 03 2012

LSC Use Only Proposal No:	UWUCC Use Only Proposal No: 12-32d.
LSC Action-Date: App-16/18/12	UWUCC Action-Date: App-10/23/12 Senate Action Date: App-11/6/12

Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

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Proposing Department/Unit PHIL	Phone x2310

Check all appropriate lines and complete all information. Use a separate cover sheet for each course proposal and/or program proposal.

1. Course Proposals (check all that apply)

New Course                       Course Prefix Change                       Course Deletion  
 Course Revision                       Course Number and/or Title Change                       Catalog Description Change

Current course prefix, number and full title: PHIL 222 Ethics

Proposed course prefix, number and full title, if changing: PHIL 122 Contemporary Moral Issues

2. Liberal Studies Course Designations, as appropriate

This course is also proposed as a Liberal Studies Course (please mark the appropriate categories below)

Learning Skills     Knowledge Area     Global and Multicultural Awareness     Writing Intensive (include W cover sheet)

Liberal Studies Elective (please mark the designation(s) that applies – must meet at least one)

Global Citizenship                       Information Literacy                       Oral Communication  
 Quantitative Reasoning                       Scientific Literacy                       Technological Literacy

3. Other Designations, as appropriate

Honors College Course                       Other: (e.g. Women's Studies, Pan African)

4. Program Proposals

Catalog Description Change     Program Revision     Program Title Change     New Track  
 New Degree Program     New Minor Program     Liberal Studies Requirement Changes     Other

Current program name:

Proposed program name, if changing:

5. Approvals	Signature	Date
Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)		4/19/12
Department Chairperson(s)		4/20/12
College Curriculum Committee Chair		5/2/12
College Dean		5/10/12
Director of Liberal Studies (as needed)		10/18/12
Director of Honors College (as needed)		
Provost (as needed)		
Additional signature (with title) as appropriate		
UWUCC Co-Chairs	Gail Schuster	10/23/12

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Liberal Studies

Received

## **I. New Catalogue Number/Name**

**PHIL 122 Contemporary Moral Issues**

3 class hours, 0 lab hours, 3 credits  
(3c- 0l-3cr)

Prerequisites: None

Examines attempts to answer foundational questions of ethics, including the following. Why should we be moral? What do morally correct actions have in common? Are there objective moral standards, or are moral codes relative to individual societies? Does morality require religion? Diverse moral theories will be applied to contemporary debates and controversies, such as environmental ethics, abortion, capital punishment, affirmative action, and animal rights. Readings will draw on historical and contemporary figures.

## **II. Proposed Changes**

Old Number/Title: PHIL 222 Ethics

Both number and name of this course are being changed.

## **III. Rationale**

This course has always been taught as an introductory level course. In order to make it clear to students that this is the case, we are simply re-numbering it as 100-level course. The change in title is to merely give more information to students about the content of the course, which is not being changed.

On the latter point, this course has always included a portion devoted to contemporary debates-- such as abortion, euthanasia, affirmative action, etc. The theoretical component has always been heavy on the traditional thinkers- Mill, Kant, Aristotle. We have thereby long taught this class as a mix of historical theories and contemporary debates. The change in name is simply to reflect to students that we are studying debates of present concern that they might be interested in. Finally, among philosophers, there is no distinction made between "ethics" and "morals". That is a distinction that somehow crept into ordinary usage. A quick look of different introductory level texts, for instance, will show both terms being used.