

Course Syllabus

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MARIAN UNIVERSITY
Indianapolis

THL 216 Moral Issues 3 Credits

Semester and Year:

Online Instructor:

Email: Contact via Canvas email

Required Textbook(s):

Keenan, S.J., James F. Moral Wisdom: Lessons and Texts from the Catholic Tradition. Sheed & Ward, 2010.

Various articles posted on Canvas

Additional Resources:

The Mother Teresa Hacklemeier Memorial Library at Marian University provides various databases

<http://www.marian.edu/library/Pages/default.aspx> (<http://www.marian.edu/library/Pages/default.aspx>)

Course Description

A study of moral theology in relationship to current moral issues with a particular emphasis on the dignity of the human person, conscience formation, and the struggle to live authentically in our culture. Moral issues concentrate on a consistent ethic of life encompassing the personal, social, economic, and ecological dimensions. This course partially fulfills the general education requirement in the theological and philosophical reasoning category.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

Student Learning Objectives

G1.a. Demonstrate the ability to articulate theological, philosophical, moral and ethical knowledge by:

G1.a.2. Demonstrating theological, philosophical and ethical literacy Exams

G1.a.4. appropriately employing theological resources and methods in theological thinking Paper 1

G1.a.6 Constructing a reasoned position on a contemporary moral issue Paper 2

G1.d.3. Demonstrate the ability to articulate the cultural life of world communities, past and present, by analyzing and interpreting the diverse cultural heritage of the past – religions, philosophies, values. Exams
Civic Learning

G5.c. Demonstrate an engagement with current events in the context of social justice.

G6.c. Explain the relationship between morality and ethical behavior within an ecumenical and interreligious context, specifically, the context of Christianity, Catholicism and Franciscanism

G6.d. Demonstrate an understanding of the 4 Franciscan values rooted in prayer: dignity of the individual, peace and justice, responsible stewardship, reconciliation

G6.f. Demonstrate an understanding of Christian accounts of the human person and their impact on human action, moral dispositions, and human fulfillment.

General Education Goals and Objectives:

Primarily, the General Education goals and objectives for THL 216 Moral Issues are articulated in the first category, “Moral Reasoning.” Secondly, the course responds to several other categories of goals and some of the objectives within those goals. The course accomplishes more than one particular goal or objective without necessarily fulfilling the requirements of the other categories of goals and objectives.

Moral Reasoning: Within the context of a Catholic University, to demonstrate an understanding of religious faith and philosophy regarding values and ethics in social and personal experience.

Specific Goals and Objectives:

1. To demonstrate knowledge of philosophical and Theological wisdom regarding questions of existence and ultimate meaning, particularly with regard to God and the human person, as informed by the Catholic tradition.
2. To demonstrate knowledge of ethical principles and moral reasoning.
3. To demonstrate an understanding of the historical and contemporary impact of Theology.
4. To demonstrate an engagement in the ongoing synthesis of faith and reason.
5. To demonstrate an appreciation of the four Franciscan Sponsorship Values: Dignity of the Individual, Responsible Stewardship, Peace and Justice, and Reconciliation.

Scientific and Quantitative Understanding:

- To demonstrate a knowledge of some of the fundamental laws of nature by which the physical and biological world operate, and to explore the relationship between these laws of nature and the living of one’s own life in harmony with them and as a responsible steward of one’s self, one’s health, and the world

Individual and Social Awareness:

- To recognize how the actions and thoughts of individuals are affected by and can affect their social, political, and economic milieus.

Cultural Awareness:

- To develop a foundation for the life-long process of observing and participating in the richness of the heritage of civilized humankind.

Effective Communication:

- To develop college-level proficiency in oral and written communication as a basis for constructive human interaction;
- To demonstrate effective and appropriate reading, writing, speaking and listening abilities; and
- To demonstrate critical and creative thinking skills in written and oral communication.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Understanding the moral wisdom contained within the biblical tradition and Christian community Papers
2. Articulating a critical and examined approach to understanding one's own worth, the worth of others, and the importance of social commitment, especially in and through classroom participation Discussion
3. Reflecting, in thought, speech, and writing, upon the relevance of the aforementioned objectives to contemporary matters of business, economics, violence/nonviolence, healthcare, sexuality, family, ecology, race, gender, and politics

Teaching Strategies

Students who complete the THL 216 course through Marian's Adult Program will be able to develop and strengthen a number of skills essential for success in today's workforce. These skills include verbal and written communication, collaboration, attention to different perspectives, leadership, and problem solving. Students engage in critical thinking and analysis through weekly written assignments. They are encouraged to articulate viewpoints about moral issues using philosophical reasoning. They collaborate with one another through weekly discussions and learn to see the value in varying viewpoints. They demonstrate leadership by taking personal responsibility for their actions, and understanding that excellence requires tireless effort and integrity. THL 216 centers on the evaluation of moral issues, but ultimately, it is a course about life. Living a good moral life, and being conscious of the many decisions one makes throughout the day and how those decisions impact others, leads to stronger families, more effective work environments, and better communities.

Assignments & Assessment Methods:**Methods of Evaluation**

Writing component. Each week you will have TWO written assignments. Your work must be typewritten in Standard English (i.e., proper spelling, punctuation, and grammar). Please use Times New Roman, 12-point font, doubled-spaced.

1. Reflection Paper on Keenan text: (1 ½ to 2 pages) in length. This paper will be a reflection on the assigned textbook readings. You must include two to three main themes of the readings and demonstrate how you understand those themes. Make sure to *address each chapter that is assigned*. **[10 points]**
2. Reflection Paper on the Assigned Articles: (1 ½ to 2 pages) in length. This paper will be a reflection on the articles assigned for each week. Please include two to three main themes of the readings and demonstrate how you understand and react to those themes. **[10 points]**

Discussion component. The class is conducted in a collaboration style, so your participation through questioning, debating, and discussing is crucial. Thorough preparation for each Discussion Forum is absolutely necessary and your insight is important to the quality of the discussion. **[15 points]**

Exam component. You will take a Final Examination on Week 5 of the course. The exam will test your ability to read critically and to demonstrate your understanding through writing. It will be a combination of both objective (multiple choice) and subjective (short answer/essay) questions. **[125 points]**

Grading Scale

A	100-94	A-	93-90		
B+	89-87	B	86-83	B-	82-80
C+	79-77	C	76-73	C-	72-70
D+	69-67	D	66-60	F	59 and below

Course Policies:

Student Handbook

Please refer to the Student Handbook for academic and school of nursing policies. The Student Handbook provides information regarding:

All Nursing students are responsible for reviewing and signing the School of Nursing Student Handbook each semester which holds you accountable for all information and addendums made throughout the semester.

NOTE: Students with disabilities who have proper documentation must contact the Director of Academic Support Services in the Learning and Counseling Center to set up a documentation review. If after the review, accommodations are deemed appropriate, an accommodation plan will be developed. As per the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) no accommodations can be provided until this process is complete. Contact Marj Batic, Director of Academic Support Services (mbatic@marian.edu; 317.955.6150; or stop by the office in Clare Hall).

Note: Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to most appropriate procedure to follow. If there are questions regarding such a procedure, contact the Dean of Student Affairs (Ruth Rodgers – rrogers@marian.edu) or the Director of Academic Support Service for additional information.

****Any changes to this syllabi will be communicated to the student.**

















Course Outline

Schedule

Course Summary:

Date

Details

Date	Details
	 Final Exam (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858660)
	 Week 1 - Keenan Reflection (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858668)
	 Week 1 - Reflection on Articles (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858669)
	 Week 1 Discussion (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858661)
	 Week 2 - Keenan Reflection (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858670)
	 Week 2 - Reflection on Articles (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858671)
	 Week 2 Discussion (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858663)
	 Week 3 - Keenan Reflection (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858672)
	 Week 3 - Reflection on Articles (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858673)
	 Week 3 Discussion (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858664)
	 Week 4 - Keenan Reflection (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858674)
	 Week 4 - Reflection on Articles (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858675)
	 Week 4 Discussion (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858665)
	 Week 5 - Ethics and Virtue Article Reflection (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858676)
	 Week 5 - Masters of Love Article Reflection (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858677)
	 Week 5 Discussion (https://marian.instructure.com/courses/2004072/assignments/10858666)