Ethics & Society (Phil 430.01)
(CRN 12449; GEN ED: 8, DISC: HUMA; PCBE: Ethics)
TR 8:10-9:30, PCAC A218   Instructor: Jen Armstrong

Course Description:
This course is designed as an introduction to applied ethics for PCBE students only. We will spend the first section of the course examining several popular approaches to ethical judgment, including Relativism, Libertarianism, and Utilitarianism, exploring how a system of ethics might be justified and to give us a vocabulary for understanding published discussions of ethical issues. Then we will be turning to Application. Each of five application topics will be chosen by students themselves, at the beginning of the first week of class. Some possible choices:

- Globalization: the Race to the Bottom, the Calcutta Claim, & Environmental Racism
- Development & the Environment: the Tragedy of the Commons, Fossil Fuels & Climate, & the Fishing or Water Crisis
- Animals: Factory Farming, & Animal Experimentation
- Corporate & Individual Responsibility: Loyalty & Whistleblowing, Conflicts of Interest, Conflicts between American Corporate Interests and Global Cultures
- Technology & Reproduction: Business & Birth Control, Genetic Engineering, & Cloning
- Discrimination: Affirmative Action, Comparable Worth, Harassment
- Advertising
- The Digital Workplace: Privacy & Proprietary Information
- Privatization and Social Institutions: prisons & schools

Course Requirements & Grading:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ethical Theory Test</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Rough Draft</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>2 Application Dialogues*</td>
<td>10% each</td>
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<td>Weekly Discussion Board Postings &amp; Responses</td>
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<td>In Class Quizzes, Philosophy Teams, Worksheets, Writing Exercises &amp; Discussion/Debate</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
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*You must write a rough draft and dialogue on the second application topic and another on your choice of the remaining topics. Information on possible topics, paper requirements will be accessible from our Canvas Course Site’s Module Page.

Texts:
- Reading & Viewing/Listening Links on our Canvas Course Site
- Harvard Business School Readings (there will be up to 3 of these, at an approximate maximum cost of $4.00 each)

I use Canvas links to main course materials, rather than a text book primarily to allow us the ability to be flexible and current (the latter, especially as we move into the application areas of the course), but also to minimize costs to students.