

## Normative Ethics (A000943)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 5.0**

**Study time 150 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024**

A (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

lecture

independent work

**Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024**

Segers, Seppe

LW01

lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024**

[Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences](#)

**crdts**

**offering**

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy](#)

5

A

**Teaching languages**

Dutch

**Keywords**

Normative ethics

**Position of the course**

This basic course wants to help students gain basic knowledge of the most important schools in normative ethics.

**Contents**

A thorough analysis is given of the major theories including utilitarianism and consequentialism, virtue ethics, feminist ethics and Kantianism. These theories are studied on the basis of the writings of philosophers who represent the different schools.

**Initial competences**

To have some knowledge about ethics.

**Final competences**

- 1 To have knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of the different normative theories.
- 2 To be able to apply the perspectives on concrete ethical problems.
- 3 To be able to read mainstream articles on ethics in scholarly journals.

**Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

**Conditions for exam contract**

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

**Teaching methods**

Lecture, Independent work

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

Due to COVID19 different didactic methods may be applied if necessary.

- Lectures
- Seminars: interactive discussion of articles.

**Learning materials and price**

Besides the syllabus, copies of a limited number of articles are used for discussion and analysis. Cost: 10 EUR

## References

- Shaw, W.H. (1999) Contemporary ethics: taking account of utilitarianism, pp. 1-170.
- Baron, M. (1997) Kantian ethics, In Baron, M.W., Pettit, P. & Slote, M. Three methods of ethics: a debate, pp. 3-91. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.
- Brennan, S. (1999) Recent work in feminist ethics. Ethics 109: 858-893.
- Copp, D. & Sobel, D. (2004) Morality and virtue: an assessment of some recent work in virtue ethics. Ethics 114: 514-554.
- Heubel, F. & Biller-Adorno, N. (2005) The contribution of Kantian moral theory to contemporary medical ethics: a critical analysis. Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy 8: 5-18.
- Gunderson, M. (2004) A Kantian view of suicide and end-of-life treatment. Journal of Social Philosophy 35 (2): 277-287.
- Horton, J. (1996) Toleration as a virtue, In Heyd, D. (ed.) Toleration: an elusive virtue, 28-43, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Hursthouse, R. (1991) Virtue theory and abortion. Philosophy & Public Affairs 20: 223-246.
- Jagger, A.M. (1991) Feminist ethics: projects, problems, prospects, In Card, C. (ed.) Feminist ethics, 78-104, Lawrence: University of Kansas Press.
- Pellegrino, E.D. & Thomasma, D.C. (1993) The virtues in medical practice, pp. 31-61, 84-91 (ch. 3, 4 & 7).
- Urban Walker, M. (2007) Moral understandings. ch. 1. Oxford University Press.
- Urban Walker, M. (2002) Moral contexts. Ch. 6 & 12. Rowman & Littlefield.

### Course content-related study coaching

The lecturer is available for additional support in case of problems and questions.

### Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

### Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment with open-ended questions

### Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment with open-ended questions

### Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

### Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

### Extra information on the examination methods

#### **Assessment Moments**

Periodical: exam (100%)

#### **Assessment Forms**

Written exam with 3 open questions. Students are supposed to know the content of the course book.

### Calculation of the examination mark

### Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

- 1 Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Feedback can be given by telephone or during an appointment during or after office hours

For more information contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy: <https://www.ugent.be/lw/nl/student/studiestudentenbegeleiding/trajectbegeleiding.htm>