

US275 Scientific Ethics

University Seminar

John R. Hoffman
Arcadia University



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An Overview of the Course

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John R. Hoffman
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John R. Hoffman, Ph.D.

Boyer Hall 230

office: 215-572-2195

email: hoffmanj@arcadia.edu

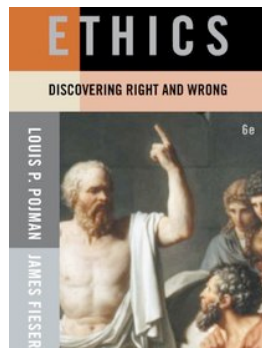
to schedule office hours:
www.tinyurl.com/drhoffmansofficehours



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Textbooks

- Pojman, L.P. & Fieser, J. **Ethics: Discovering Right and Wrong, 6th ed.** Cengage, (2009). ISBN: 978-0-495-50235-7
- Additional resources
 - web links
 - Adobe PDF
 - Kindle e-book



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“Lecture” Topics

- Video introduction to topic
- Additional readings and/or activities
- Assessment for each topic
 - discussions
 - quizzes



<http://www.entertainmentbuddha.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/Lectures.jpg>

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Discussions

- Prompt:
 - A question or scenario posted by the instructor.
- Student Discussion:
 - minimum number of comments by each student
 - substantive
 - focused
 - timely (usually 7 day limit)



<http://www.stanford.edu/group/ccr/blog/300px:Talk-icon.svg.png>

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Grading of discussions

- 2 point discussions
 - 1 point for best comment
 - .5 point for 2nd and 3rd best comments
 - ± 0.1 to 0.3 based on contribution to the discussion (up to maximum points)
- 3 point discussions
 - 1 point for each of best three comments



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Final Project

- Group Project instead of Final Exam
- WRITTEN DEBATE
 - Scientific Background
 - First Constructive Dialogue
 - Second Constructive Dialogue
 - Rebuttal & Closing Statement
- COMMENTS on other debates



http://www.wargames.com/themes/school_debate.gif

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Grading

- Every assignment worth between 1 - 4 points
- For each assignment, please review
 - assignment instructions
 - grading rubrics
- Scores will be available for review by clicking on the "My Grades" tab.

A	>93%
A-	90 - 92.9%
B+	87 - 89.9%
B	83 - 86.9%
B-	80 - 82.9%
C+	77 - 79.9%
C	73 - 76.9%
C-	70 - 72.9%
D+	67% - 69.9%
D	63 - 66.9%
D-	60 - 62.9%
F	<59.9%

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Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism will not be accepted
 - do not "cut & paste"
- Use your own words to express your thoughts, supported by evidence
 - but avoid using extensive direct quotes.



<http://sociology.camden.rutgers.edu/fm/plagiarism/plagiari.jpg>

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Civility

- This course is focused on learning different perspectives on the impact of science and technology on society
- Please be respectful and considerate of others in the class.
- Some topics in this course may make you uncomfortable.
- You are likely to disagree with some statements by the instructor or other students.



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/31/Southern_Chivalry.jpg

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University Seminar

- Designed to make intellectual connections
- among academic disciplines
 - Science
 - Philosophy/Ethics



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Natural and Physical World

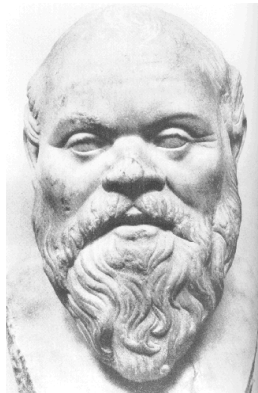
- *Area of Inquiry*
- answer questions about the natural and physical world.
- explore both the process and outcome of scientific inquiries.



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Cultural Legacy

- *Area of Inquiry*
- Study human experience and expression
- examine aspects of past cultures such as their politics, religions, ethical systems...
 - students engage in asking and answering questions about understanding the past.



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Global Connections

- Intellectual Practices
 - provide the tools to understand, interpret and communicate in a complex, global society.
- Students examine issues related to:
 - interconnectedness,
 - interdependence, and
 - inequity within and among nation-states of the world.
 - also explore issues of social justice, social welfare, and economic rights across national borders.



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Assignment

What is this course all about?

This course is likely to be very different from other university courses you have taken.

In order to be successful in this course you need to remain involved in the group discussions on the different topics. I want you to review the course information (syllabus and course policies), and then post a response in the Questions & Concerns discussion thread.

Your post should contain either:

I have read the syllabus and course policies and have no questions.

or:

I have a question about _____.



Assignment

Introduce Yourself!

Since this course is totally online, it is important for us to “virtually” get to know everyone. Therefore, I want you to post a short introduction of yourself to the Cyber Cafe in the Discussion Board section.

At a minimum, the post should contain:

1. Name
2. Photo of you
3. Why are you interested in this course?
4. What would you like to learn in this course?

Read and Reply to your classmates introductions.



Readings

Syllabus

Blackboard/course information

Course Policies

Blackboard/course policies



The Reading Madonna
Giorgio Barbarelli da Castelfranco

Any Questions?

- Course Questions
- Discussion Board/
Questions & Concerns
- Email me at:
hoffmanj@arcadia.edu



<http://www.vipitbullkennels.com/images/animated-question-mark.gif>