PHIL 2050 Ethics and Values, Special Topics: Animal and Food Ethics, Hybrid Course  
**Time:** MW 12-12:50, Room: LA 127 and Friday Online/Hybrid Section  
**Professor:** Eric Stencil, eric.stencil@uvu.edu  
**Office Hours:** MW 1:20-2:20  
**Office:** CB 507h

**Course Requirements**

Writing Responses (4) 8 points (2 points each)  
You must turn in **four** writing responses. Throughout the term there are nine opportunities to turn in a writing response. In order to turn in a writing response, you must attend (the entire) class that day. No late writing responses will be accepted. Writing responses consist in a ½-1 page summary of an argument, thought experiment, etc. from the reading assignment for that class period and a ½-1 page response to that argument, thought experiment, etc. These will be graded pass/fail (in rare cases ½ credit). One writing response must be completed by September 28 and two by October 24.

Writing workshops (2) 5 points  
There will be three writing workshops throughout the term. (3/5 if you attend one, 5/5 if you attend two and 6/5 if you attend three). You must bring **three** copies of your paper to each workshop.

Formal Writing Assignment 10 points  
There are three opportunities to turn in a Formal Writing Assignment. You must turn in one. Information on the Formal Writing Assignment is available on Canvas.

Paper Portfolio (1) 17 points  
The final paper portfolio includes your original four writing responses, and your formal writing assignment. It also includes your notes from your writing workshops and a copy of the draft with my comments on your paper. The central components of the portfolio are revised versions of all four Writing Responses (two based on self evaluation, two based on peer evaluation) and your Formal Writing Assignment (based on my comments on your paper). This is due at the final exam period.

Exams (2) 30 points—(15 points each)  
There will be two in class exams comprising short-answer and essay questions.

Online Assignments: (10) 30 points---(3 points each)  
Each Wednesday I will post that week’s online activity which will include some combination of readings, videos, podcasts, and written assignments. Each week the assignment is due by the following Sunday at midnight. There will be fourteen such assignments. Your top ten scores count to this part of the grade. Your lowest four scores will be dropped. No late assignments will be accepted.

Service Learning Project Option (replaces “Online Assignments” if chosen)  
In lieu of the online assignments, each student may opt to engage in a service learning project. Any student interested in this sort of a project should meet with me to set up a specific plan and project. The required components include volunteering 20 hours over the course of the semester with an organization of your choice (though it must be approved by me) that concerns food and/or non-human animals, e.g., an animal shelter, or a food bank. Your weekly assignments will be structured around your Service Learning Project rather than the online assignments. If you are considering taking this option, please let me know immediately. You have until the 3rd week of class to finalize your project (including signing a university waiver) or you will “default” to the Online Assignments.

**All online assignments must be turned in on Canvas. All other assignments must be turned in in class.**

**Course Texts:**

   *This text will be assigned for the online assignments and does not appear in the reading schedule.*

Course Description
This course is an examination of Ethical Theory. Ethical Theory includes questions about the nature of goodness, happiness, morality, whether there are moral principles and if so what they are, and how we should live our lives. We shall study four major general ethical theories that offer answers to these questions as well as focusing on specific topics in Food and Animal Ethics.

Objectives (*modified by instructor)
1. Demonstrate knowledge of several different theories of ethics, and contemporary ethical issues.
2. Demonstrate ability to critically read works of philosophy as well as literature, religion, and/or history, toward understanding the basis of your own ethical views.*
3. Clearly articulate and rationally support your own ethical views and positions.*
4. Demonstrate the ability to interrelate knowledgably, reflectively, responsibly, and respectfully with a society of increasing intercultural connections.

Grading Scale
A = 94% and above
A- = 90 – 93
B+ = 87 – 89
B = 84 – 86
B- = 80 – 83
C+ = 77 – 79
C = 74 – 76
C- = 70 – 73
D+ = 67 – 69
D = 64 – 66
D- = 60 – 63
E (Failing) = Below 60

Accessibility Services Statement:
Students who need accommodations because of a disability should contact the UVU Accessibility Services Department (ASD), located on the Orem Campus, in LC 312. To schedule an appointment, or speak with a counselor, call the ASD office at 801-863-8747, or for Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals, use the video phone number, 886-760-1819

Academic Dishonesty
Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty and integrity, as outlined in the UVU Policies and Procedures, see especially IV-D. Each student is expected to maintain academic ethics and honesty in all its forms, including but not limited to, cheating and plagiarism as defined hereafter:

1. **Cheating** is the act of using or attempting to use or providing others with unauthorized information, materials or study aids in academic work. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, passing examination answers to or taking examinations for someone else, or preparing or copying other’s academic work.

2. **Plagiarism** is the act of appropriating any other person’s or group’s ideas or work (written, computerized, artistic, etc.) or portions thereof and passing them off as the product of one’s own work in any academic exercise or study.

Please cite any and every source you use in completing an assignment (including all articles, books, websites, etc.). The punishment of any instance of cheating or plagiarism will be determined by the professor and depending upon the severity of the offense can range from failing the assignment to failing the entire course. Please see me right away if you ever have any questions or uncertainties regarding plagiarism.

You will receive one warning for using a cell phone in class. With each subsequent infraction your final grade will be penalized with increasingly severe penalty.

E-mail Etiquette:
E-mails should begin with a salutation and end with a closing. You should identify yourself and include your class and section. Please use complete sentences.

Reading Schedule:
Week 1: August 22-26
Monday August 22: Introduction to the class, Syllabus
Wednesday August 24: Argument and Logic
Week 2: August 29-September 2
Monday August 29: “Famine, Affluence, and Morality” Peter Singer available: here. **Writing Response 1**
Wednesday August 31: Singer continued.

Week 3: September 5-9
Monday September 5: NO CLASS LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
Wednesday September 7: Julia Driver “The History of Utilitarianism” available here. **Writing Response 2**

Week 4: September 12-16
Monday September 12: Driver continued.
Wednesday September 14: Terence Cuneo “Conscientious Omnivorism” in PCD. **Writing Response 3**

Week 5: September 19-23
Monday September 19: Cuneo Continued.
Wednesday September 21: Kant *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals* excerpts. [reading posted on Canvas]. **Writing Response 4**

Week 6: September 26-30
Monday September 26: Attend Ethics Awareness Week
Wednesday September 28: Kant continued.

Week 7: October 3-7
Monday October 3: Writing Workshop Day 1.
Wednesday October 5: “Why I Am a Vegan (and You Should Be One Too)” by Tristram McPherson in PCD **Writing Response 5**

Week 8: October 10-14
Monday October 10: McPherson continued
Wednesday October 12: W. D. Ross, *The Right and the Good* Chapter II, available here. **Writing Response 6**

Week 9: October 17-21
Monday October 17: Ross continued
Wednesday October 19: Exam 1
**No Online Assignment (Fall Break)**

Week 10: October 24-28
Monday October 24: “A Moral Argument for Veganism” Dan Hooley and Nathan Nobis in PCD **Formal Writing Assignment 1**
Wednesday October 26: Hooley and Nobis cont.

Week 11: October 31-November 4
Monday October 31: Writing Workshop 2
Wednesday November 2: “Consumer Ethics, Harm Footprints, and the Empirical Dimensions of Food Choices” Mark Bryant Budolfson in PCD **Formal Writing Assignment 2**
Week 12: November 7-11
Monday November 7: Finish Budolfson, Begin “Can We Really Vote with Our Forks? Opportunism and the Threshold Chicken” Andrew Chignell in PCD.
Writing Response 7 (on Chignell)
Wednesday November 9: Chignell continued.

Week 13: November 14-18
Monday November 14: “Factory Farming and Consumer Complicity” Adrienne M. Martin in PCD
Formal Writing Assignment 3
Wednesday November 16: Martin continued.

NO CLASS NOVEMBER 21-26 UVU Holiday

Week 14: November 28-December 2
Writing Response 8
Wednesday November 30: Athanassoulis continued. Begin “Does Locavorism Keep it Too Simple?” Anne Barnhill in PCD
Writing Response 9 (on Barnhill)

Week 15: December 5-9
Monday December 5: Barnhill continued.
Wednesday December 7: Writing Workshop Day 3.

Final Exam Period, Monday December 12, 11 AM

Marvin helping me work.
In loving memory.