**EHR 3103 Social Ethics**

**Course Description**

This course introduces a systematic framework for thinking about ethical dilemmas that arise in personal, professional and civic life. It will review theoretical, biological and socio-cultural conceptions of moral obligation, as well as relevant socio- historical, cultural and scientific contexts. The course will enhance your ability to recognize the complex interplay between moral concepts and lived experience and to resolve moral dilemmas.

**Course Objectives**

This course addresses a topic likely to be important throughout the life of the student. Theme courses investigate subjects from multiple perspectives, enabling you to incorporate knowledge from the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities. In addition to expanding your general fund of knowledge and your intellectual expertise in these disciplines, this course should:

1. increase your ability to deal with complex issues,
2. encourage you to adopt a scholarly perspective to
3. investigations, and
4. refine your skills in critical thinking and in written and oral communications

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of the course the students will learn to:

1) Analyze and construct philosophically respectable arguments;

2) appreciate the relationship between ethics and the natural and social sciences;

3) distinguish normative from factual claims;

4) distinguish moral, social and scientific evidence & justification;

5) Correlate moral concepts and lived (personal, social, biological) experience; and resolve moral dilemmas.

**Course Outline**

1. Moral Theory
   * Utilitarianism
   * Kantian Ethics
   * Rights Theory
   * Virtue Ethics
2. Theories of Justice
3. Case analysis and justification
4. Ethical Dilemmas

**Methodology**

The facilitator(s) will employ the following methods; Guided discovery, lectures with discussion, Class discussion, small group discussion, Report back Session, values clarification exercise, explanations.

**Assessment Mode**

Take home exercise 15%

Practical exercise test 15%

End of semester examination 70%

**Reading list**

Gary Dorrien (2008), Social Ethics in the Making: Interpreting an American Tradition

Jane Addams (2009), Democracy and Social Ethics

Stephen M. Scrimenti (2005), A Companion to Ethics.