**EHR 3202 The Human Person, Ethics and Human Rights**

**Description:**

The philosophical assumptions we hold about the basic nature of the human person form the basis of how we live organize society and relate with each other. This course studies the views of the most influential thinkers on the subject of the human person examining how the theories they advanced have affected the type of ethics we advocate the human rights orientations we hold. The course highlights the ideas of each of the thinkers on what he explains the human person is and then shows how such ideas can radically affect our views on ethics and human rights and ultimately affecting the kind of society we live in and the kind we would like to live in

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**Course Objectives:**

By the end of the course, students should be able to

1. Present, describe and discuss the various basic assumption held about human nature.
2. Explain how the basic assumptions about human nature have influenced views on ethics and the generation of human rights.

Show how a specific conception of human nature can be applied to analyze the human rights and ethics situation in society.

**Course Outline**

1. Ancient Philosophy – Plato – Aristotle – The stoics
2. Scholastic Philosophy
   * Severinus Boethius
   * St. Augustine
   * St. Thomas Aquinas
3. Modern Philosophy
   * Thomas Hobbes
   * Jereny Bethan
   * Karl Mark
4. Contemporary Philosophy
   * Abraham Maslow
   * Robert Olson
   * Pantaleon Iroegbu

**Reading List**

1. Iroegbu Pantaleon, Treatise on the Human Person, Eustel Publications, Nekede Owerri, 2000
2. Milton Gonsalves, Right and Reason: Ethics in Theory and Practice, Prentice-Hall, New Jersy, 1985.
3. Omelchenko Nikolay (ed.)., The Human Being in Contemporary Philosophical Conceptions, Cambridge, 2009.
4. Trigg Roger, Ideas of Human Nature: An Historical Introduction, Blackwell, Oxford, 1994.