

Foundations of Ethics I

ASUW - Fall 2009 - Wednesdays 6:05 PM – 8:55 PM

FIRST CLASS MEETING: AUGUST 26

ASSIGNMENT FOR THE FIRST CLASS:

POJMAN, CHAP. 1: pp. 1-52; JONAS, CHAP. 1: pp. 1-24; recommended: MARTIN CHAP. 1;

Martin Beck Matušík, *Lincoln Professor of Ethics & Religion*

<http://www.public.asu.edu/~mmatusti>

The first in a two-course sequence for Master of Arts in Applied Ethics and the Professions (= AEP), including M.A. concentration in Pastoral Care Ethics and Spirituality (pending approval). The course is suitable as an elective for students interested in the intersection of theoretical and applied ethics, philosophy, and religion and their relation to the professions.

A graduate level study of primary texts of classic ethical theories and their applications to various issues in daily life and the professions. Ethical traditions studied in the course will include some of these frameworks: virtue ethics and natural law ethics, consequentialism and contractualism, deontology and critical communitarianism. The course will pay attention to the shifting nature of the relation between ethics and religion. In the applied, activity-portion of the course, students will investigate real life ethical issues and examine them from several normative perspectives studied in the course. This part of the course consists of a series of roundtables - “real life ethics seminars” – during which students present an ethical issue from their personal and/or professional experience (e.g., internship) and examine them with others with theoretical tools gained in the course.

Registered students should consult the blackboard site for a fall 09 syllabus and other required articles. These should be posted no later than in early August.

Required Books (available through ASU-West bookstore or from your book seller)

Hans Jonas. *The Imperative of Responsibility: In Search of an Ethics for the Technological Age*. University of Chicago Press, 1985. ISBN: 978-0226405971

Mike W. Martin *Everyday Morality: An Introduction to Applied Ethics*. 4th edition. Wadsworth Publishing, 2006. ISBN: 978-0495007081

Louis P. Pojman and Lewis Vaughn. Eds. *The Moral Life: An Introductory Reader in Ethics and Literature*. 3rd ed. Oxford U. Press, 2007. ISBN: 978-0-19-530851-8