

CODE: THO 3166	TITLE: Moral Existence
CREDITS: 3 cr.	
TERM: Winter 2013	PROFESSOR: Kenneth Melchin

DESCRIPTION	This course is a presentation of foundations in ethics within the discipline of theology. Christian ethics is presented as an active quest towards understanding and guiding ethical living. Part I presents a brief historical background to ethics in the Christian tradition. Part II introduces key insights on moral knowing, moral persons and the social dimension of moral life. Part III discusses human sinfulness and the response of Christian faith. Part IV presents some contemporary issues and debates in ethics.
OBJECTIVES	The course aims to help students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - situate contemporary issues and concerns in ethics within a historical context; - grasp concepts and methods in ethics as a preparation for more advanced study; - develop skills for critically reading published literature in the field; - develop tools for participating in theological ethics as an active inquiry; - develop a critical awareness of personal ethical foundations and concerns.
WORKLOAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Required readings - In-class exam, 1st wk. of Feb. - Book review assignment, due mid-March - Final exam, written
EVALUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In-class exam 20% - Book review 30% - Final exam 50%
REQUIRED TEXTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kenneth Melchin, <i>Living With Other People</i> (Ottawa: Novalis, 1998). - James CHILDRESS and John MACQUARRIE, eds., <i>The Westminster Dictionary of Christian Ethics</i>, rev. ed. (Philadelphia: Westminster John Knox Press, 1986).
RECOMMENDED TEXTS	<p>Students will choose one of the following texts for a book review assignment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Richard GULA, <i>Reason Informed by Faith</i> (N.Y.: Paulist Press, 1989). - Romanus CESSARIO, <i>Introduction to Moral Theology</i> (Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2001). - David HOLLENBACH, <i>The Common Good and Christian Ethics</i> (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 2002). - Lisa Sowle CAHILL, <i>Sex, Gender, and Christian Ethics</i> (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 1996). - James GUSTAFSON, <i>Christ and the Moral Life</i> (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009; orig. 1968). - J. Philip WOGAMAN, <i>Moral Dilemmas</i> (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009).