

**MARMARA UNIVERTISY**  
**Faculty of Human and Society Sciences**  
**Department of Philosophy**  
Fall 2022  
UNI 213 Understanding Ethics  
Dr. Erdal Yılmaz  
[Erdal.yilmaz@marmara.edu.tr](mailto:Erdal.yilmaz@marmara.edu.tr)

### **1 - Course Description**

Since the ancient Greeks, philosophers have held ethics as one of the most important fields in philosophy because of its intimate ties with all aspects of life. In today's world, people are faced with ethical issues in many areas of daily life. Therefore, there is a need to learn and discuss the most important moral and ethical issues, and the theories about them. The course aims at helping students to reflect on a variety of moral and ethical problems through exploring the major ethical approaches.

### **2- Course Objectives:**

- You will understand the most important moral and ethical problems and questions.
- You will know the major ethical theories like virtue Theory, Utilitarianism, Deontological Theories.
- You will think about values, the good life and happiness.
- You will argue for and against Ethical Relativism and Moral Objectivism.
- You will apply different ethical theories to moral and ethical problems and questions.

### **3- Readings**

A file of all readings is available online. You are required to bring with you the reading materials of each week. You might prefer to bring an electronic copy or you might choose to print them out. The material you will be reading is dense and difficult, but do not be discouraged, and complete the reading every week. It is absolutely important that you do the reading in advance. Our class discussions rely on your arguments and criticisms on the primary materials, therefore it is essential for you to do the reading in advanced each week.

### **4 – Assignments:**

Your work in this course will be assessed through one midterm exam and one final exam.

### **5 - Grading:**

%40 Midterm Exam

%60 Final Exam

### **6- Textbooks**

Louis P. Pojman/James Fieser, Ethics. Discovering Right and Wrong, 6th Ed., Wadsworth, 2009.

<b>Weekly Plan</b>		
Week 1	What is Ethics?	Chap. 1, p.1-13
Week 2	Ethical Relativism	Chap. 2, p. 14-29
Week 3	Moral Objectivism-I	Chap. 3, p. 30-44
Week 4	Value and the Ques for the Good I	Chap. 4, p. 46-61
Week 5	Social contract Theory and the Motive to be Moral	Chap. 5, p. 64-78
Week 6	Egoism, Self-Interest and Altruism	Chap. 6, p. 81-95
Week 7	Summary of the six chapter, some questions	
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	
Week 9	Utilitarianism	Chap. 7, p. 100-119
Week 10	Kant and Deontological Theories	Chap. 8, p. 121-131
Week 11	Virtue Theory	Chap. 9, p. 146-167
Week 12	Gender and Ethics	Chap. 10, p. 167
Week 13	Religion and Ethics	Chap. 11, p. 187-205
Week 14	The Fact-Value Problem	Chap. 12, p. 206-225
Week 15	Summary of the topics after the midterm exam	
<b>Week 16</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	