A. Course Description

Credits: 4

Lab Hours/Weeks: Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/Week:

MnTC Goals: Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies, Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts, Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

The specific topic of this course changes from semester to semester. Each time the course is offered, it considers a topic of current social importance and employs important work in social and moral philosophy to understand them. Topics have included reparations and responses to historical injustices; toleration of religious and other differences; immigration and the question of who should get in and why. Future topics may involve the legitimacy of torture; justice in the distribution of health care; markets and morals; same-sex marriage; the role, nature, and justifiability of patriotism; etc.

B. Course Effective Dates: 08/16/2017 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Compare and contrast major moral theories, theories of justice, and philosophical theories in social and political philosophy.
2. Focus most acutely on the centrality of justification for claims made in these accounts.
3. Apply, at an advanced collegiate level, the resulting understandings to an analysis of the moral dilemmas in a topic of current social importance such as reparations and responses to historical injustice; patriotism; warfare; toleration of religious and other differences; and other challenging issues currently central in civic debate.
4. Use the work of the course to reflect on personal beliefs and attitudes about these central issues, and to construct ways, as a citizen, to act morally on those beliefs.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies

None

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
4. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

1. Understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues.
2. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.
3. Examine, articulate, and apply their own ethical views.
4. Recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.
5. Identify ways to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

G. Special Information