

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
Department of Philosophy
Undergraduate Course Outline 2024-25

PHILOSOP 1040G
Ethics, Law, and Politics

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Information including instructor contact details and course location can be found on the course Owl BrightSpace:

at the Canadian Constitution, and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in particular. In Canada, our Constitution sets the framework in which law and politics played – it also embodies and enshrines various values that sound very much like ethical commitments. We will also consider how law and politics differ from what may seem the more personal, or at least less enforceable, sphere of ethics. As we examine **the ethical, legal and political** dimensions of these issues through written work, in-class and on-line discussion, activities and assignments, we'll learn:

- how to produce good, clear philosophical analysis
- how to apply, develop, and defend multiple perspectives
- how to provide and articulate convincing arguments in support of our conclusions

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, students who have done the readings, completed the assignments, and attended class will be able to:

- Explain, orally and in writing, the difference between an ethical, legal, and political approach to issues.

- Identify key sections of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and their application in significant Charter challenges and Supreme Court of Canada decisions.

- Identify and evaluate arguments expressing diverse points of view in relation to course **topics**

- Construct strong arguments in support of well-reasoned conclusions

- Approach and analyze new topics and contexts from ethical, legal, and political standpoints.

In addition, students will develop their written, oral, and critical skills in these ways:

- By doing tutorial homework assignments and engaging in tutorial discussions through the term, students will develop skills of critical analysis, critical writing, and interactive engagement with others concerning course material.

- By participating in in-class discussions (in both large and small groups), students will become stronger and more confident speakers.

- Through philosophical essays designed to promote the sy00009(a)-2(Cf1 0 0 1 90.05 276.58 Tm0 G0078

It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Philosophy, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

