

Christian Ethics

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. – Romans 12:2

General Objectives

- Gain a working knowledge of the field of ethics
- Understand the various ethical systems in operation
- Discern between ethics and morality
- Develop a strong Christian ethic
- Understanding the role of ethics as worship
- Understand a working model in order to come to an ethical conclusion
- Application of Christian Ethics to some of the most controversial issues of the day such as: Abortion, Homosexuality/Transgenderism, War, Poverty, Environmentalism, Designer Babies, Cloning, Capital Punishment, and Torture.

Class Environment

- Lecture format with PowerPoint slides
- Heavy emphasis on classroom discussion
- All students encouraged to participate and to respond to one another with love and grace and patience – the study of ethics can lead to sharp disagreements from time to time.
- Most of the emphasis will be on the lecture slides, which are provided in advance, plus readings from the class textbooks as well as some outside readings.

Homework

Students are expected to stay current on reading assignments. There will be no tests in this class. There will be three (3-5 page) position papers due during the second half of the class.

ONLINE STUDENTS: Please submit your position papers via the class Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ShaZE--OXPLb7gmL0U1eayw9DPQDiOLB?usp=sharing>

Required Materials

Moral Choices by Scott B. Rae, 2nd Edition of higher, Zondervan, Grand Rapids MI
Every Good Thing by Dr. David Jones, Lexham Press, Bellingham WA

SYLLABUS

FALL 2024 Ethics

- Week of 8/12:** Introduction to Christian Ethics
Read Rae chapters 1&2
- Week of 8/19:** Ethical Theories
Read Rae chapter 3
- Week of 8/26:** Worldviews, Evangelism, Sources of Authority
Read Rae chapter 4
- Week of 9/2:** Ethics in the Bible (OT/NT/Jesus/Paul)
No reading assignment
- Week of 9/9:** Conscience & A Working Christian Ethic
No Reading Assignments
- Week of 9/16:** Ethics as Worship
No Reading Assignments
- Week of 9/23:** Abortion
Read Rae Chapter 5 before class
Position paper DUE Week of 10/7
- Week of 9/30:** Euthanasia & Capital Punishment
Read Rae chapters 8 & 9 before class
Position paper DUE Week of 10/14
- Week of 10/7:** Cloning & Artificial Insemination
Read Rae chapters 6 & 7 before class
Position paper DUE Week of 10/28
- Week of 10/14:** War & Peace
Read Rae chapter 11 before class
Position paper DUE Week of 11/
- Week of 10/21:** **FALL BREAK!!!**
- Week of 10/28:** Environmentalism
Read Jones chapters 1 & 5 before class
Position paper DUE Week of 11/11

- Week of 11/4:** Sexual Ethics/Homosexuality
Read Rae chapter 10 before class
Position paper DUE Week of 11/28
- Week of 11/11:** Gender/Transgender
Read excerpt from Heimbach + Denison Forum Article (online)
Position paper DUE Week of 11/25
- Week of 11/18:** Poverty
Read Rae chapter 12 before class
Read Jones chapter 4 before class
Position paper DUE Week of 12/9
- Week of 11/25:** **THANKSGIVING BREAK!!!**
- Week of 12/2:** Work & Vocation
Read Jones chapter 2 before class
Position Paper DUE BY 12/16
- Week of 12/9:** Open Discussion
FINAL CLASS!