

# HTH182 Christian Ethics



**Pathways**

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For the Acadeum Course Sharing Consortium



*We're delighted to have you study at RMC! Please note the following policies:*

We try our best to ensure you get the most from the courses in which you are enrolled and welcome your feedback!

### **Online Courtesy**

As beings created in the image of God, we all deserve to be treated with the utmost respect whether we are a facilitator or a student. Online courses give us the opportunity to encourage social interaction, relationship building and trust between participants which befits our status as image-bearers. Failure to show respect in course interchange, through emails, announcements, discussion forums or instant chat, whether in the form of racism, chauvinism or simple unkindness is ungracious and inappropriate for the health of Christian community. Where mutual respect exists, the possibility of learning is enhanced for all.

Therefore, please remember that there is a person behind every comment on the course website – when you respond, be gracious, give the benefit of the doubt and ask for clarification. Review your comments in the discussion forums for tone before submitting them – sarcasm and jokes often do not translate well in the online environment. Be sure your messages are clear – it is tempting to quickly write a response and submit it but this can lead to confusion if your thoughts are a bit jumbled – take time to polish your remarks. Remember that your comments, whether in emails or discussion forums can become public so act accordingly.

### **RMC Grading Policy**

#### **Grade GradePoint**

A+	4.0	
A	4.0	A = Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	3.7	
B+	3.3	
B	3.0	B = Good -clearly above average performance with knowledge of the subject matter generally complete.
B-	2.7	
C+	2.3	
C	2.0	C = Satisfactory — basic understanding of subject matter.
C-	1.7	
D+	1.3	
D	1.0	D = Inferior work which falls below the expectations of the course but which is of passing quality.
D-	0.7	
F	0.0	F = Failure to meet the minimum standards required for a passing grade.
P	Pass	P = Represents satisfactory work. Given only in courses specially designated for Pass /Fail grading.
IN	Incomplete	
VW	Voluntary Withdrawal	from a course before the course withdrawal deadline.
AU	Audit	- No grade awarded. Indicates that a minimum of 75% of classes have been attended.

### **Grading Scale**

90-100:	A
80-89:	B
70-79:	C
60-69:	D
59 or below:	F

## Plagiarism & Academic Misconduct at Rocky Mountain College

### A. Plagiarism Defined

**Plagiarism** - involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Plagiarism exists when:

1. the work submitted was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting the work,
2. parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
3. the whole work is copied from another source, and/or
4. a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence.

### B. Penalties

1. **Failing Grade** - a student may be given a failing grade in either the assignment or course in which that student is found guilty of plagiarism. Except in circumstances in which leniency is warranted, this penalty will be applied in conjunction with one or other of the other penalties mentioned below.
2. **Disciplinary Probation** - when a student is placed on disciplinary probation, he or she is entitled to proceed with their academic program. If the student is found guilty of a further academic offence the student will be suspended or expelled.
3. **Suspension** - suspension takes place when a student is denied continuance at the college for a specified period of time. A student who has been placed under suspension is eligible to reapply for admission after the end of that specified period of time. Suspension does not imply automatic readmission; a student must satisfy the dean of his/her eligibility for readmission.
4. **Expulsion** - a student who is expelled is dismissed permanently from the college with no right to apply for readmission.

### C. Penalties and Their Application

1. In cases in which the dean is satisfied that a student is guilty of a clear intention to deceive, the normal penalty will be either suspension or expulsion from the college.
2. In cases in which the dean is satisfied that an offence has been committed, but doubt is left as to the existence of a clear intention to deceive, the normal penalty will be disciplinary probation.
3. In cases where a student is found guilty of more than a single offence, the normal penalty will be expulsion from the college.

*Copies of the official policy regarding Plagiarism and other academic offenses can be found on the RMC website. If charged with plagiarism, it would be wise for a student to familiarize themselves with the RMC policy, "Plagiarism, Cheating & Academic Misconduct."*

This policy is based on the University of Calgary policy "Plagiarism, Cheating & Academic Misconduct - 1996-97" Copyright © 1998 University of Calgary

***HTH182 Christian Ethics***  
**Rocky Mountain College**  
**Credits: 3**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to help students understand the nature of ethical thinking and to apply sound judgment to their lives. During this course, students will encounter broad definitions of ethics, some history of ethical deliberation, and how different ethical systems operate in the "real" world.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify and explain key ethical frameworks and some contemporary ethical issues.
2. Reconcile ethical systems with their own Christian faith.
3. Demonstrate the ability to apply ethical systems thinking to moral questions.

**COURSE ASSUMPTIONS**

1. Our starting point as well as our arbiter of soundness is the Christian Bible. While this course will explore extra-biblical ethics, we start and end with Scripture.
2. This is not a comprehensive study of all ethical discourse or history; this is a survey of major ethical systems. As such we will touch on many ethical points, which will not be fully explored in the class, but will hopefully give the student a desire to delve more fully into the study of ethics.

**COURSE TEXTBOOKS**

1. Austin, Victor Lee. *Christian Ethics: A Guide for the Perplexed*. New York: Bloomsbury, 2012.
2. Wilkens, Steve. *Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.)*. Downer's Grove: IVP Academic, 2011.

**CLASS FORMAT AND POLICIES**

Online courses are created to allow for flexibility within structure. As such, this course is designed to be followed chronologically (it is best to do each portion of the module in the order it is presented), yet is flexible with that structure to a degree. There are a variety of media used to present material in order to aid in the retention of the information provided, as well as to facilitate further interest in the subject matter.

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

The course will move through many ethical systems and theories, one or two per module.

## **GRADE WEIGHTS**

Assignments	40%
Discussions	30%
Participation	10%
Reading	20%

## **SUBMISSION**

All assignments should be typed using Arial 12 pt. font and double-spacing with 1" margins. Assignments may be formatted as Microsoft Word documents (.doc) or Adobe PDF (.pdf) unless otherwise stated.

## **GUIDELINES FOR ASSIGNMENTS**

Work submitted for this course must be written in APA style. See the course preamble for details on written work standards. Work ought to be free of spelling mistakes, punctuated correctly, and adhere to basic rules of grammar.