Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
COURSE OUTLINE

I. Catalog Information

A. Title of Course: Environmental Ethics  
B. Course Designator: PHIL 2070
C. Number of Credits: Lecture 3  
Lab  
D. Control Number: 35

E. Catalog/Course description:
This course is an overview of ethical issues relevant to our ecological environment. The student will be introduced to traditional ethical theories as well as those theories directly relating to the environment. Core discussions will focus on possible answers to the question, "How does what we value influence our moral choices?" (Meets MnTC goal areas 6 and 9).

F. Course prerequisites: None  
G. Date Approved: 05/09/08  
Date Revised: 01/22/10

II. Course Materials (Recommended course materials and resources. List all that apply, e.g. textbooks, workbooks, study guides, lab manuals, videos, guest lecturers)

A textbook such as:

Videos, guest lecturers, and supplemental readings should be implemented where appropriate.

III. Learning Goals, Outcomes, and Assessment Minimum of one goal and two learning outcomes in each competency. If your course does not meet one of the Competencies Across the Curriculum, please justify your rationale. Minimum of two assessment measures for each learning outcome. Add other goals and outcomes as needed. If this course is part of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC), attach the MnTC goals, outcomes, and your assessment measures to this form; if possible, use them to complete the information below.

A. Information Literacy (the ability to use print and non-print tools effectively for the discovery, acquisition, and evaluation of information as well as core computer tools for the manipulation and presentation of information.)

1. Learning Goals:
   Goal I. The student will become knowledgeable regarding the Desire 2 Learn (D2L) on-line platform
   Goal II. The student will use print and/or on-line resources for the acquisition and enhancement of learning beyond the materials presented in the class.

2. Learning Outcomes and Assessments:
   Outcome I.1. The student will demonstrate competency in accessing information posted by the instructor on the D2L platform.
      Assessment: The student will demonstrate the ability to download information from the D2L web site.
   Outcome I.2. The student will demonstrate the ability to communicate with the instructor through the D2L platform.
      Assessment: The student will drop papers and journals into the appropriate dropbox and retrieve comments.
   Outcome II.1. The student will demonstrate the ability to evaluate the applicability of print and on-line material for use in this course.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate the ability to use proper citation of print and online source material.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate the ability to find and use credible print and online sites.

B. Ability to Communicate (the ability to listen, read, comprehend, and deliver information in a variety of formats.)

1. Learning Goals:
   Goal I. Acquire an overview of environmental ethical theories.
   Goal II. Use various theories to explore possible ethical choices as they relate to the environment.

2. Learning Outcomes and Assessments:
   Outcome I.1. The student will be able to read material provided, match ethical terminology with its definition, define ethical theories, and match ethical theories with representative philosophers.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate this knowledge through quizzes.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate this knowledge in small group discussion.
   Outcome I.2. The student will be able to comprehend the material presented in class through lecture and assigned readings.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate comprehension of the material through journals.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate comprehension of the material through discussion.
   Outcome I.3. The student will be able to deliver information on environmental ethics in a variety of formats.
   Assessment: The student will present an oral report using power point providing an overview of the material in an assigned book.
   Assessment: The student will provide summaries of current events related to environmental ethics in a written format.
   Assessment: The student will discuss current events related to environmental ethics in class or small group discussions.
   Outcome II.1. The student will articulate an informed personal reaction to the various ethical theories.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate the ability to role play the various ethical theories in given scenarios.
   Assessment: The student will give personal responses to the various theories in journals, class discussion, and small group activities.
   Outcome II.2. The student will articulate an informed personal reaction to current events related to environmental ethics.
   Assessment: The student will write reflect on current events in journals.
   Assessment: The student will share their position on current events in class and small group discussions.

C. Problem Solving (the ability to conceptualize, apply, analyze, synthesize, and/or evaluate information to formulate and solve problems.)

1. Learning Goals:
   Goal I. Provide students with a variety of creative thinking tools that promote successful ethical dialogue.
   Goal II. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of environmental issues.
   Goal III. Identify the relationship between the choices made concerning the way in which one interacts with the environment and the responsibilities of a good citizen.

2. Learning Outcomes and Assessments:
   Outcome I.1. The student will demonstrate knowledge of the various creative thinking tools and their ability to use those tools.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate the ability to use these tools in various small group activities.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate the use of these tools in journal assignments.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate the ability to use these tools on quizzes, including the final exam.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate the ability to use these tools to discuss environmental case studies.

Outcome II.1. The student will demonstrate the ability to analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of environmental ethics.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate this ability through small group and classroom discussions.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate this ability through the writing of journals and papers analyzing the ethical dimensions of specific environmental issues.

Outcome III.1. The student will demonstrate the ability to identify the relationship between the choices they make about their interaction with the environment and their responsibilities as good citizens.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate this ability through small group and classroom discussions.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate this ability through the writing of journals and papers analyzing the ethical dimensions of good citizenship.

D. Culture (knowledge of Anishinaabe traditions and culture, knowledge of one’s own traditions and culture, knowledge of others’ traditions and cultures, and respect for global diversity.)

1. Learning Goals:
Goal I. Provide a historical and social framework for the current development of environmental ethics.
Goal II. Provide an overview of environmental ethics within a global perspective.
Goal III. Introduce the student to the relationship between culture and environmental ethics.
Goal IV. Introduce the student to the role that virtues and values play in environmental ethics.

2. Learning Outcomes and Assessments:
Outcome I.1. The student will demonstrate knowledge of the history of environmental ethics.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the history of environmental ethics on quizzes.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the history of environmental ethics in class discussions.

Outcome I.2. The student will demonstrate knowledge of the impact of society on environmental ethics.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the impact of society on environmental ethics on quizzes.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the impact of society on environmental ethics in class discussions.

Outcome II.1. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of global relationships to environmental ethics.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate this understanding through oral presentation of a book or current events.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate this understanding through journals.

Outcome III.1. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between culture and environmental ethics.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate this through class and small group discussion.
Assessment: The student will demonstrate this through journals.
Outcome III.2. The student will demonstrate an awareness of the role that feminism has played in the development of environmental ethics.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate this awareness in class and small group discussions.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate this awareness in journals.

Outcome IV.1. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the role of aretaic (virtue based) ethics in environmental ethics.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate this understanding in class and small group discussions.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate this understanding in journals.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate this understanding on quizzes including the final exam.

Outcome IV.2. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the role of axiology (the study of values) in environmental ethics.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate this understanding in class and small group discussions.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate this understanding in journals.
   Assessment: The student will demonstrate this understanding on quizzes including the final exam.

IV. Course Content (Outline the major topics covered in this course.)
1. What is environmental ethics?
2. Introduction to values
   a. Instrumental values
   b. Intrinsic values
   c. Historical, social, and cultural values
3. Relationship of Ecology and Ethics
4. Deontological theories
   a. Divine command
   b. Kantian theory
   c. Social Contract
5. Teleological theories
   a. Utilitarianism
   b. Egoism
6. Environmental Virtue Ethics (EVE)
7. The Land Ethic
   a. Aldo Leopold
8. Deep Ecology
9. Ecofeminism
10. Sustainability
    a. Seven generations thinking
11. Creative thinking in environmental ethics
    a. Practical Applications

Documentation for MnTC
Goal 6: Humanities and Fine Arts
Goal 9 Ethical and Civic Responsibility

(revised October 2009)