

## Course Descriptions

### Honors 280. Choice and Character: An Exploration of Ethical Leadership

This honors seminar explores the relationship between ethics and leadership through close study of great books within the fields of philosophy, history, political theory, natural sciences, literature, and religion, alongside some contemporary authors and ethical case studies. Drawing on diverse and influential perspectives, students will examine how ethical principles shape leadership practices and the development of character and judgment.

This course is designed as an interdisciplinary humanities seminar the readings for which may vary according to the discretion of the instructor. Authors may include Plato, Aristotle, Confucius, Kant, Machiavelli, Mill, Wollstonecraft, Hobbes, Nussbaum, Thucydides, Lincoln, Kuhn, Carson, Sophocles, Shakespeare, Austen, Melville, Beecher Stowe, Burns, MLK Jr., the Bhagavad Gita, and the Writings of Swedenborg. 3 credits.

### Philosophy 111H. How To Flourish: An Introduction to Moral Philosophy. (Moral)

Survey of some major philosophers, problems (Euthyphro, relativism, egoism), and theories (aretaic, deontic, utilitarian) in moral philosophy. Honors section. Strongly recommended: Philosophy 101 or Philosophy 102.

3 Credits.

### Religion 190H. Principles of Expression

Exploration of principles of expression, with particular focus on New Church concepts framing the way in which inner spirit is expressed in outward forms. Weekly readings and discussion culminate in a reflective exercise analyzing the application of principles studied in the course to a hands-on project the student has undertaken or is undertaking in another course, an internship, or other qualifying experience (approved by the head of the honors program). The reflective exercise will examine ways in which choices manifest ends (goals, motivation, purpose) in outward forms. Limited to students enrolled in Bryn Athyn's Ethical Foundations honors program. May not be used to fulfill Core requirements. 1 credit.

## B. Ethics applications courses

### Anthropology/History 211. Artifacts, Archaeology, and Museums. (W)

Introduction to the theories and methods used to interpret how objects relate to a society's values, ideas, and attitudes. Includes examination of archaeological method, archaeological and museum ethics, and the use of objects in a museum setting.

Substantial use of hands-on projects and Glencairn Museum as a lab. Includes visits to other Bryn Athyn historic district sites and local sites. 3 Credits.

### Business 301. Business Ethics. (Moral)

The analysis of moral principles and their application to decision making in business. Includes an overview of philosophical and theological ethical theories, including New Church ethics. Major focus on the analysis of concerns in actual case studies from

business, involving issues such as downsizing, whistle-blowing, competition vs. cooperation, and social responsibility. Communication 105 is recommended. 3 Credits.

**Business 302. Corporate Social Responsibility.**

This course includes application of New Church/Swedenborgian ethical responsibility in business strategic planning and management. Particular focus on corporate leaders who are using an ethical worldview when partnering with government regulators, donating to non-profits through foundations, or managing sustainable supply chains. Students will strengthen their teamwork skills in various class projects. Ethical reasoning theories are drawn from psychology and theology to explain the socially responsible actions of corporate leaders. 3 Credits.

**Education 202. Moral Education. (Moral)** After exploring the origins of morality and how it is developed within the individual and society, this course focuses on how to best support moral, pro-social behavior in a school setting. Special attention will be given to the role of storytelling in moral education. 3 Credits.

**Education 260. Educating for Sustainability. (QR)** Examination of sustainability issues from a systems perspective. Topics include the natural laws that underlie environmental problems; the interrelationship of environmental problems, economic factors, and social inequity; and best practices for educating others regarding sustainability. Prerequisite: Math101. 3 Credits.

**English 105. Madness in Literature (Introductory Literature Seminar).**

Study of how and why madness appears so often in fiction. Considerations include its symbolic values, its use as a manipulative narrative tool, its emotional impacts, its relations to illness and genius, and its changes in literature from classical to contemporary works. Authors include Euripides, Gogol, Poe, Kafka, Plath, Christie, Palahniuk, and more. 3 credits.

**English 220. British Literature I. Virtue, Vice, and Visions: 650-1650.** Chronological survey of the development of English literature in England from the early medieval period through the mid-17th century. Lecture, discussion, and student reports or projects. Prerequisite: Writing 101. 3 Credits.

**Philosophy/Political Science 220. Political Thought. (Civil)**

A consideration of political thinkers and theories, both ancient and modern, along with perennial issues in politics, such as justice, authority, liberty, order, equality, power, law, and forms of government. Strongly recommended: Philosophy 101. Prerequisite: Philosophy 102. 3 Credits.

**Philosophy 330. Advanced Moral Philosophy.**

Exploration of themes and problems in ethics, such as the role of emotions in moral life, the relationship between happiness and moral life, the intersection of philosophy and law,

the relationship between spirituality and morality, and a variety of current moral issues. Historical and contemporary philosophical texts, as well as passages from Swedenborg's theological and philosophical works used. 3 Credits. (not regularly offered)

**Philosophy 340. Bioethics. (Moral)**

A philosophical exploration of the ethical issues pertaining to the application of biological information and technology to the generation, alteration, preservation, and destruction of human life and aspects of our environment. Issues to be considered include: reproduction, euthanasia, genetic screening and therapy, experimentation with human and animal subjects, bio enhancement, ownership and nature, distributive justice, and integrity in publication. Prerequisite: Philosophy 102 and any 100-level Biology course. 3 Credits.

**Philosophy 342. Ethics and Computing Technology. (Moral)**

Topics considered include privacy, freedom of speech, cybercrime and security, intellectual property, error and risk, artificial intelligence, evaluating technology. Overview of normative ethical theories. Application of ethical theories and professional codes to real cases. Prerequisite: Philosophy 102 (or permission of instructor). 3 Credits.

**Psychology 330. Research Methods. (QR)**

The investigation of psychology as a science with a focus on the qualitative and quantitative approaches to research in the area of psychology. It examines strategies for establishing validity in descriptive, relational, and experimental design in the framework of ethical research. Emphasis will be placed on critical reading and analysis of previously published scientific research. Students receive practice in designing, conducting, analyzing, interpreting the results of research studies, and writing reports in APA style. Prerequisite: Psychology 101 and two other psychology courses, or department chair permission. 3 Credits.

**Psychology 341. Altruism. (EE, Moral)**

Exploration of psychological theories about moral development, character strengths, altruism, optimism, flourishing, flow, generosity and spiritual maturity. Major emphasis on the states of adults over 18 years of age. Examination of Swedenborgian doctrinal principles regarding adult human development: regeneration, opening of the rational mind, developing a new will, acquiring wisdom, and leading a life of useful service to the neighbor. 3 credits.

**Religion 271. Moral and Spiritual Life. (Applied)**

Various approaches to morality. The spiritual foundation of moral virtues and moral living. Consideration of civil, moral, and spiritual questions dealing with both individual and institutional conduct, such as revolution and the rule of law, the relation of church and state, spiritual and natural freedom, war, race relations, ethics in business and labor, the use of alcohol and drugs, and responsibility for others. 3 Credits. (not regularly offered)

**Religion 272. Advanced Religious Ethics. (W, Applied)**

Advanced study of the Ten Commandments as they appear in the religious writings of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and other world faiths. Study of the literal and spiritual level of each commandment using selected texts from sacred and secular sources. Students encouraged to draw connections between the various levels of the commandments and their own lives. 3 Credits.

Religion 372. Spiritual Development for Educators (W, Applied)

This course is primarily designed for educators who are currently (1) working in an elementary or secondary school setting, or (2) planning to work in an educational setting. Each week, students will have the opportunity to reflect on the many challenges that come up within educational settings that prevent them from being the loving, wise, and useful educators they hope to be. Each week, students will have the opportunity to reflect on their feelings, thoughts, and actions in the light of one of the Ten Commandments and, when appropriate, share their experiences with classmates. Prerequisite: Students must be juniors or seniors majoring in education 3 Credits.

Writing 213. Advanced Rhetoric and Composition. (W) Intensive study of writing for students interested in developing rhetorical skills in composition. Attention to concepts of classical rhetoric and to issues arising in the context of contemporary cultural environments and communications practices, including online environments. 3 credits.