Purpose of the Course

The central focus of PHIL 334- Bi-Weekly is to offer students an opportunity to bridge the gap between theory and practice in engineering ethics. This course is designed to help students improve their communication and consensus-building skills, as well. Although there are many important aspects to this course, including the material to be covered, the most important aspect will be that each student undertakes to think for himself or herself, and to learn to express himself or herself through classroom discussion, writings and debates. Over the course of the semester, students will develop an awareness of the complexity of ethical decision-making and the practical skills to help them make those decisions.

Textbook:

*Engineering Ethics*, Harris, Pritchard, & Rabins, 3rd Edition, Thomson Wadsworth

This textbook will help students carry over their natural analytical talents into a new area: moral deliberation. The authors provide real-life cases, structured methodology for analyzing cases, and examples of cases that have been analyzed to give students a true understanding of what is involved in practicing ethical engineering. Codes of ethics are also provided and discussed.

Attendance:

Students, of course, are expected to attend all classes. Attendance will make up 5% of your grade. Those who miss no more than three classes will earn an attendance score of 100. Those who miss more than three classes, for any reason, will earn a 0 attendance score.

Final Grades:

Grades will be based on the following: Attendance; papers and/or writing assignments; and a team debate. Students are expected to keep up with the readings and participate in class discussions. Challenging class participation will improve your final grade.
PHIL 334- BI-WEEKLY

OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

September 5-  Introduction to the course

September 10-  Chapter 1: “Engineering Ethics: Making a Difference”
September 12-  Cases: 15, 25, 66
                HANDOUT: “Weyco”

September 17-  Chapter 2: “Responsibility in Engineering”
September 19-  Cases: 36, 48, 51
                DUE: 1st Paper “Weyco”

September 24-  Chapter 3: “Framing the Problem”
September 26-  Cases: 19, 26, 57, 63

October 1-  Chapter 4: “Organizing Principles”
October 3-  Cases: 5, 32, 43, 52, 55

October 8-  Chapter 5: “Computers, Individuals, Morality, Social Policy”
October 10-  Cases: 12, 45, 54
                DUE: 2nd Paper (“Ethical Dilemma”)

October 15-  Chapter 6: “Honesty, Integrity, and Reliability”
October 17-  Cases: 9, 30, 34, 35, 44, 62
                HANDOUT: “The 59-Story Crisis”

October 22-  Chapter 7: “Safety, Risk, and Liability in Engineering”
October 24-  Cases: 20, 37, 40, 64

October 29-  Chapter 8: “Engineers as Employees”
October 31-  Cases: 22, 23, 47
                DUE: Research Paper (“59-Story Crisis”)
PHIL 334- Bi-Weekly

OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

(Continued)

November 5- Engineers as Managers
In-box Hiring exercises

November 7- Engineers as Managers
In-box Hiring exercises
Writing Exercises
HANDOUT: John Stuart Mill- “On Liberty”

November 12 - Chapter 9: “Engineers and the Environment”
November 14- Cases: 1, 39, 65
DUE: 3rd Paper- (Memo, Letter- HR)

November 19- Chapter 10: “International Engineering Professionalism”
November 26- Cases: 3, 53, 61, 70
Debates (Prep)

November 28- Chapter 11: “Engineering Professionalism and Ethics: Future Challenges”
Cases: 2, 21, 29 Debates (Prep)

December 3- Debates (Prep)
December 5- Debates (Prep)

December 10- DEBATES (Team Presentations)

December 12- DEBATES (Team Presentations)
FINAL PAPER (Mill- “On Liberty”)