

**CHRISTIAN ETHICS—College Prep
2011 - 2012**

Mrs. J. Johns

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Course Description:

This course is designed for those students who wish to develop skill in the areas of gathering and interpreting data, debating the weight of competing arguments, and where possible, moving from the evidence to a resolution of the problem. The moral dilemmas under scrutiny during this yearlong course of study range from the personal to the societal to the global. The ultimate objective is to foster personal commitment to Christian values, which would then be reflected in the behavior and lifestyle of the individual.

TERM I: September, October, and November

- What is Christian morality? Why be moral?
- Jesus' example of service and love is our role model
- Questionable approaches to morality
- Natural law
- Following one's conscience is required of the moral life
- Societal influences on conscience
- Moral decision-making explored
- Mercy charisms: compassionate presence, concern for the dignity of all, justice, hospitality, service

Enrichment: "A Beautiful Mind" (natural law), or "The Power of One" movie (human solidarity)

Term Assessment: Spiritual Autobiography (100 points)

Term II: December, January, and February

- Sin and morality
- Personal sin and social sin
- Virtues are cultivated and develop over time
- How to make a good moral decision
- The first three Commandments and how we are to honor God
- Morality and family life
- Our conscience and authority
- What is meant by "man's sanctuary?"

Enrichment: "A River Runs Through It" movie

Term Assessment: VIC: Values-in-Conflict Research Paper. (100 points)

Term III: March, April, May

- Respect for life: life issues of the unborn, elderly, and death-row inmates explored
- Living wills
- Sexuality and morality
- Sex and the teenager
- Explore Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body
- Intimate relationships and the sacrament of marriage

Enrichment: This term provides an opportunity for guest speakers and course-related videos.

Movie: "Pursuit of Happyness"

Video: *Sex Still Has a Price Tag*

Book: *Tuesdays with Morrie*

Term Assessment: Comprehensive Final Exam. (100 points)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

SUPPLIES

Book: *Deciding* (purchase in CM)

1-subject notebook (for notes)

Composition book (journal)

Looseleaf paper

Pocket folder for handouts

GRADING SCALE

You can expect tests, reflection papers, and projects and all will be graded on a total points system. Late assignments will be devalued 10 % for each class that it is late; if not turned in by third class after due date, a zero will be recorded. ******When absent, it is your responsibility to obtain the missing assignments or notes on the MPS homework website.***

POLICY FOR MISSING ASSIGNMENTS:

Students should keep a copy of all computer-generated work in their server folder at MPS. They should also keep a hard copy of all other work/tests/quizzes until final grade is posted. ***In the event of a missing or lost assignment the burden of proof rests with the student.*** You must give all assignments to me personally.

INTEGRITY POLICY

- ✓ It is expected that you will exhibit respect for everyone in the classroom in both word and action.
- ✓ Cheating on tests or assignments will not be tolerated. No credit will be given and detention will be issued.
- ✓ No eating or drinking will be allowed in this classroom.
- ✓ Cell phone and ipod use will not be tolerated. First offense will receive a tier 2 detention.

LAV sign-out

Please use the lav before coming to class or in the last 15 minutes of class. If it becomes necessary to use the lav during class time, please sign out on the clipboard on my desk. Students are not allowed to leave the classroom between 2:30 and 3:00.

MAKE-UP TESTS, EXTRA HELP, AND PERSONAL CONFERENCES: These will be completed between 3:00 and 4:00 on any day by appointment.

****If you are in need of prayer or would just like to talk, you can reach me in room 202 every day at 3:00. If you'd rather leave me a note, please e-mail me. May God bless you.*