“This course fulfills the HCC E-focus requirement for the AA degree as well as a humanities diversification requirement for UHM. Students transferring to UHM will be required to take an additional 300 or 400-level E-focus course to fulfill their graduation requirements.”

**Instructor:** Judy Y. Sokei  
**Office:** Bldg. #7, Rm 625  
**Phone:** 845-9425 (and voice mail)  
**Office hours:** TR 10:30-11:30  
**E-mail:** jsokei@Hawaii.edu  

**Recommended Preparation:** English 100 (C grade or higher).  
**Required Text:** *In Pursuit of Happiness: An Introduction to Ethics (2005)* and *Power Points for Phil. 101 (2005)*, by Chris Ann Moore. The text will be made available via Laulima.

**Course Description:** Social and individual values, obligations, rights, and responsibilities.  
**Course Purpose:** The goals of the course are twofold. The first goal is to introduce you to important philosophers (e.g., Plato, Socrates, Aristotle, Aquinas, Kant, Mill, Kierkegaard, Sartre) and the moral philosophies they presented that have greatly influenced individuals and cultures throughout history. We will study their philosophies and see how their moral views may or may not reflect or influence our responses to contemporary ethical issues such as: pre-marital sex, contraception, homosexuality, abortion, assisted suicide, euthanasia, cloning, female genital mutilation, the legalization of prostitution, environmental rights, animal testing, and human rights. The second goal is to ensure your understanding of and engagement with these philosophies and ethical issues through academic writing.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Students will

- define and describe the elements of major ethical theories.  
- demonstrate knowledge of reasoning used to support these theories as well as the **flaws** inherent in each theory.  
- apply the methods of various philosophical ethical theories and their own moral theories to a variety of contemporary moral dilemmas and ethical controversies.  
- demonstrate competency in ethical deliberation and the use of discipline-based tools to arrive at rational ethical judgments.  
- evidence an understanding of the diversity of moral reasoning through these applications, assessments and analyses as well as through respectful participation in class discussions.  
- articulate, both verbally and in writing, their own personal moral theory and the reasoning they used to develop and support that theory.  
- write clear, well-organized, philosophically-engaged papers.

**Course Requirements:**
• **Readings.** You are expected to complete all assigned readings by their due dates and be prepared for class discussions. All readings will be taken from required texts and handouts.

• **Two Exams, Four Quizzes.** The first major exam is the mid-term, which will test your knowledge of the philosophical moral theories learned in class. The second exam is the final exam. It will ask you to propose a solution to a moral dilemma by applying the many theories learned in class. Four quizzes will be given.

• **Four Journals.** You will be required to write four academic journals (1 page, typewritten, 1.5 spaced, Times New Roman, font size 12) reflecting on or responding to a contemporary ethical issue assigned in class. Your journal will incorporate the ethical theory discussed in class as well as your own ethical reasoning based on experiences or values. Grammar and organization are important for your grade. You will be given a week to complete each assignment. I will provide detailed feedback on your journals, and revisions and rewrites may be required of you. Late journals will be graded down one full letter and will not be accepted after one week. Do not email journals. If for any reason you cannot attend a class, you are responsible for what is due, finding out what went on and what the assignment is. Email me or ask a classmate. **Plagiarism Policy:** Plagiarism, or stealing another person’s written work, will not be tolerated and can lead to expulsion from the U.H. system. If you decide to use someone else’s writing, put it in quotation marks, and acknowledge the author in a footnote or bibliography. See me if you have questions. A student who plagiarizes will receive zero points for that assignment. Further plagiarisms will result in an expulsion from the course.

• **Class Participation.** Class discussion is a significant part of this course. We will all have a chance to share our thoughts as well as journals in class. Because speaking in class may be difficult for some of us, we will practice intellectual safety and show respect for one another. **Class attendance is very important** for your grade.

• **No Cell Phone Usage allowed during class,** unless you clear it with me for educational purposes. All cell phone ringers must be turned off while in class and there is **ABSOLUTELY NO TEXTING** allowed. If you are caught texting, you will be marked absent for the day. If your cell phone goes off, there will be punishment, though not one that infringes on your eighth amendment rights.

**Evaluations:**

- Mid-term 100 points 25%
- Four Quizzes 100 points 25%
- Four Journals 100 points 25%
- Final Exam 150 points 25%

90-100%--A  
80-89%--B  
70-79%--C  
55-69%--D  
-54%--F, N or Inc.

Note: the “N” and “Inc.” grades are given only for special circumstances.

Qualified students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course. Please speak with me after class or contact my office. Students with disabilities may obtain information on available services online at [http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/disability](http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/disability). Specific inquiries may be made by contacting Student ACCESS at (808) 844-2392 voice/text, by e-mail at access@hcc.hawaii.edu, or simply stopping by Student ACCESS located on the Dillingham Campus, in Bldg. 5, Rm. 107B.