



Nipawin Bible College
CM1022 Ethics - Deacon's Track
Winter 2024
2 Credit Hours
Mr. Richard Friedt
rfriedt@nipawin.org

COURSE DESCRIPTION

How does a Christian in 2024 make decisions regarding right and wrong when the surrounding culture has no standard by which to make ethical judgments? How do we as Christians set our moral compass to the Word of God so that our lives are marked by an unwavering commitment to His ways? Decision-making in a post-Christian era is becoming more and more complex. This course teaches a Christian approach and perspective to making ethical decisions with confidence. An answer can be found to the most challenging of circumstances—using biblical principles and precedents as well as the guiding of the Holy Spirit.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

The Bible (a translation, *not a paraphrase*).

Copan, Paul, and Robertson McQuilkin. *An Introduction to Biblical Ethics: Walking in the Way of Wisdom*. Westmont: IVP Academic, 2013.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Know the major biblical passages that form the guide to all Christians regardless of era, culture, or circumstances.
2. Have an appreciation that all decisions require ethical thinking.
3. Have an approach to ethical decision-making, which will prepare him/her for a lifetime of biblically informed decisions.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Textbook Reading - 20%

- Students will be required to read the assigned pages in the text.
- A reading declaration will be filled out on each day the reading is due.
- *This assignment will equip students to meet Course Objectives 1-3.*

Due: See Class Schedule

Biblical Ethics “Foundation” Assignment - 10% each for a total of 30%

- Read the following passages:
 - Assignment #1: Exodus 19:1-20:21; Deuteronomy 5-6 **Due: February 1, 2024**
 - Assignment #2: Matthew 5-7 **Due: February 29, 2024**
 - Assignment #3: Ephesians 4-6; Romans 12:9-21 **Due: March 21, 2024**
- Make a list of commands and principles (dividing the positive ones from the negative) that guide behavior/decision-making.
- Comment on the things learned, feelings generated, etc.
- This may be done in bullet point form. A cover page is required.
- *This assignment will equip students to meet Course Objective 1.*

Due: See above

Textbook Synopsis - 50%

- Students are required to write a short paragraph describing one thing that they learned from each chapter of the assigned reading for the week.
- *This assignment will equip students to meet Course Objective 3.*

Due: See Class Schedule

Assignments must be submitted **at the beginning of class** on the day that they are due.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Refer to the NBC Handbook 2023-2024.

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY: Refer to the NBC Handbook 2023-2024.

Reading: 180 pages

Writing: 4 pages informal

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Subject	Reading <i>*Due before each class</i>	Written <i>*Due before each class</i>
January 16	Introduction to Biblical Ethics		
January 18	Part I: Love		
January 23	Part II: Law		
January 25	Part III: Sin		
February 1	Part IV: Virtues & Vices	Chapters 7, 8, 9	Textbook Synopsis "Foundation" Assignment #1
February 6	Part IV: Virtues & Vices cont.		
February 8	Part V: Ethical Alternatives		
February 13	Part V: Ethical Alternatives		
February 15	Part VI: God First	Chapters 12, 13	Textbook Synopsis
February 27	Part VII: Intro to Family Ethics	Chapter 14	Textbook Synopsis
February 29	Part VII: Intro to Family Ethics		"Foundation" Assignment #2
March 5	Part VII: Sex, Marriage, Family	Chapters 15, 16, 17	Textbook Synopsis
March 12	Part VII: Sex, Marriage, Family continued	Chapter 20	Textbook Synopsis
March 14	Part VII: Sex, Marriage, Family continued		
March 19	Life Issues		
March 21	Life Issues continued		"Foundation" Assignment #3
March 26	Life Issues continued		
March 28	Life Issues continued		
April 2	Part XI: Fallible Choice		
April 4	Review & Exam Prep		
Exam Week			Final Exam

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Butterfield, Rosaria. *The Gospel Comes with a House Key*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2018.
- Chambers, Oswald. *Biblical Ethics: The Moral Foundations of Life with The Philosophy of Sin*. Grand Rapids, MI: Discovery House Publishers, 1998.
- Geisler, Norman. *Christian Ethics*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2010.
- Green, Joel B., general editor. *Dictionary of Scripture and Ethics*. Grand Rapids, MI: BakerAcademic, 2011.
- Green, Joel B., editor. *The New Testament and Ethics: A Book-by-Book Survey*. Grand Rapids, MI: BakerAcademic, 2011, 2013.
- Green, Joel B., and Jacqueline E. Lapsley, editors. *The Old Testament and Ethics: A Book-by-Book Survey*. Grand Rapids, MI: BakerAcademic, 2011, 2013.
- Grobien, Gifford A., general editor. *Ethics of Sex: From Taboo to Delight*. St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2017.
- Heimbach, Daniel R., series editor. *Christian Bioethics*. Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2014.
- Jones, Gareth. *Bioethics: When the Challenges of Life Become Too Difficult*. Adelaide: ATF Press, 2007.
- Kilner, John F., editor. *Why the Church Needs Bioethics*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011.
- Messer, Neil. *Respecting Life: Theology and Bioethics*. London: SCM Press, 2011.
- Mohler, Jr., R. Albert. *We Cannot be Silent*. Nashville, TN: Nelson Books, 2015.
- Rae, Scott B. *Introducing Christian Ethics*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2016.
- Reagan, Ronald. *Abortion and the Conscience of the Nation*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1984.
- Vandrunen, David. *Bioethics and the Christian Life*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2009.