

Mrs. Jane Elfring

Morality, Course Number 122

Text:

Socias, Rev. James. Gen. ed. Our Moral Life in Christ: A Complete Course. Chicago: Midwest Theological Forum, 2003.

New American Bible. Wichita, Ks.: Fireside Bible Publishers, 1991.

Materials Needed:

- Textbook, Bible
- marble composition book (for in-class journal)
- 1 1/2-2 in. loose-leaf binder with four dividers to keep handouts, tests, articles, etc.
- blue or black ink pen
- highlighter
- spiral notebook (for notes if you do not use loose leaf paper)

Course Description:

The morality course is designed to assist students to make the difficult moral decisions with which they are confronted in their daily lives. The students will study a technique and process which will enable them to make rational decisions in the light of revelation and the teachings of the Church.

Assignments:

All assignments must be done in **blue or black** ink, unless otherwise specified. Homework assignments ordinarily will be **written in ink and in complete sentences**. Failure to do either of these results in lost points (half credit on incomplete sentences and five points off if not in blue or black ink). Some assignments will need to be typed. These assignments will usually be long-range and will be identified at the time the assignment is given. If you do not have access to a computer, the paper must be signed by your parents stating this or I will send the paper back for signature. It will be considered late and will be graded accordingly.

I expect my students to take pride in their work and to do it carefully and on their own. While students may work with one another to find the answers for homework questions, the work turned in for grading must be the student's own work. Therefore, students may not turn in as their own work assignments that are the same as or substantially the same as that turned in by other students. The purpose of homework is to help you, the student, learn the material.

Copying work from another student defeats that purpose. In keeping with the Academic Honor Code, students must write AND SIGN the following at the end of each assignment that they turn in: "I have upheld the intent and principles of the Paul VI Academic Honor Code while completing this assignment." (student handbook, p. 3; complete code, p. 36-37)

In addition, plagiarism - defined as copying from another source without attribution - is considered cheating. I want to know YOUR answers are for the assigned work, not what your friends answered.

Journal:

Journal topics will be assigned at the beginning of each period. These must be completed in the marble composition book. Each entry should be dated and be a minimum of one-half page long. Journals are usually collected twice a quarter and each class will be notified of its own due date. The journal counts as a **test** grade. If you are absent, you must find out what the topic was and make up that topic.

Binder:

Binders must be neat and orderly. They should be divided into four sections:

Section one: Course requirements and project sheets with the most recent papers in front,

Section two: Handouts and vocabulary ending with the most recent in the front,

Section three: Graded assignments ending with the most recent in the front, and

Section four: Tests and quizzes

Binders will be collected and graded as a **test** once a quarter. Individual classes will be notified of their own due dates. Papers should be put in the binders with the most recent papers in a section on top. Keeping an organized binder will make studying for tests much easier. Students are encouraged to compare their binders to mine to make sure that all papers are in order.

Projects:

Each quarter a project will be assigned. Students may choose to work independently or with a partner. All projects will require research and a class period will be set aside to allow time to begin this work. Specific project sheets will be distributed to explain the requirements as well as how the projects will be graded.

Please note: Projects are due on the date assigned whether you are in school or not. If you are absent, the work should be dropped off at the office. If this is not possible, a parent must leave a message explaining that the work has been completed and will be turned in when you return. Twenty points will be deducted per day if I have not received parental notification. Parent messages should be left on my voice mail at the school. My extension is 423.

Absences and Make-up Policies:

Please refer to the student handbook concerning missed work (pp. 14-15). It is **your responsibility** to find out what work was missed and to make it up in the allotted time. Unless there are special circumstances, you should expect to make up missed tests the day you return. If you are absent the day before a test and no new material has been presented, you may be expected to take the test with everyone else. Please note: make-up tests are all essay.

Late Work:

You are expected to turn in all assignments on their assigned date. **Classwork and homework turned in late will be lowered 10 pts. per day that it is late. Additionally, you will complete a pink slip explaining why you didn't have the assignment on time. These slips will be made available to your parents during conferences.**

Grading Policy:

- 10%: class participation
- 15%: quizzes
- 25%: classwork and homework
- 25%: tests, journal
- 25%: projects

Service Hours:

During the semester, students must complete five (5) hours of service. Sophomores must provide service to the **church or civic community**. Failure to complete the hours by the due date will result in the final grade being lowered by one letter grade (i.e. a C would become a D; a D would become an F).

Tardiness and bathroom passes

Entering class late disrupts the class and interferes with your learning as well as that of your classmates. You are given five minutes between classes and are required to be in class when the bell rings. I allow **three tardies** during a quarter before issuing detentions. **Please Note: You are late whether you have a pass from another teacher or not. Your pass is a "Corridor Pass" only-it does not change the fact that you have arrived late.**

Each student may take the pass three times during a quarter to go to the bathroom. I will record when you use the pass.

Extra Credit

I offer students many opportunities to earn extra credit during the quarter, for example during test reviews. Additionally, I give an extra credit sheet. Students may submit as many extra credit items as they wish **as long as all homework has been turned in on time**. Each extra credit item submitted is worth a maximum of 10 pts. which is added to the lowest test or quiz grade for the quarter. I don't add extra credit points until the end of the quarter. All extra credit is due one week before the end of the quarter.

Web Site and E-Mail:

My website for student use is <http://www.jmeelf.com>. This site has many links and sources of information for projects. My e-mail address is jelfri@bellatlantic.net My extension at school is 423 if your parents need to reach me.

I have read the course policies for the Morality class and agree to follow them.

(student signature)_____

I have read the course policies and understand my child's responsibilities to follow them.

(parent signature)_____