

**Philosophy Paper on Ethics
Rubric for Mid-Term Essay**

30

Motivate topic **(2 points)**

State and explain the philosophical problem.
State and explain the purpose of the paper.

State thesis **(3 points)**

State your thesis. [Clear, coherent, explicit.]

Argue in favor of the thesis **(6 points)**

Summarize the position
Explain the terms and the basic position
Use reasons that serve as premises for the conclusion
Argue and support the position with premises.

State opposition to the thesis **(3 points)**

State the opposite of your thesis. [Clear, coherent, explicit.]

Provide reasons on behalf of the opposition **(6 points)**

Summarize the position
Explain the terms and the basic position
Use reasons that serve as premises for the conclusion
Argue and support the position with premises.

Argue in favor of your thesis *in light of* opposing view **(10 points)**

Argue against opposition.
Argue for thesis.

Possible changes to grade:

Name on paper: -1

Missing Banner Number on paper: -1

Failed to have topic approved: -1

Failed to submit outline: -1

Not printed and handed-in, stapled: -1

Plagiarism: Automatic zero points.

*If you want to **make an argument** for a different grade, **email me** an explanation for why you should earn a different grade than the one assigned.*