

PHIL 337 A01
CRN# 22338

January – April 2018
TWF: 12:30pm – 1:20pm

Ethics: Theory and Practice

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Office Hours: Wednesday 2pm – 4pm

Grading System

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point	Grade Definition
90 – 100	A+	9	

Policy on Late Assignments: Late assignments will be accepted for five working days after the posted due date; however, late assignments *will not receive written comments*. After five working days documentation is required demonstrating sustained illness

2. I obviously believe this thread of philosophical thought is worth studying, but I also encourage students to take courses at Uvic that explore alternative perspectives. For example, courses in *Indigenous Studies* (IS 200A; Indigenous Studies Foundations) and *Gender Studies* (GNDR 330; Feminist Thought, Past and Present) would nicely complement our study of normative ethics in Western philosophy.
3. The fact that there are so few women and persons of colour on our reading list is *not* because they are less philosophically sophisticated than men! It is because Western civilization has a long history of gender discrimination, racism, and colonialism that excluded women and persons of colour from the formal study of philosophy.
4. There is still much work to be done to make philosophy fully inclusive for members of disadvantaged groups, but remember that (despite our reading list) there are many distinguished philosophers today who are women, persons of colour, members of the LGBTQ community and disabled persons. Students who identify with these groups can take inspiration from the fact that these contemporary role models exist.

If you have further concerns about diversity in our course or suggestions for how it may be more effectively promoted, please do not hesitate to contact me.


Schedule of Readings and Assignments

Note: *Dates listed are subject to change!* Regular class attendance is essential in order to stay informed about scheduling changes. Material is meant to be read *before* the class in which it is discussed. Contemporary readings listed by author are available online via *Coursespaces*. Be sure to access the online readings well in advance to avoid last-minute technical problems. Let me know if such problems arise.

Week Readings

Jan. 2	No Class
Jan. 3	First Meeting
Jan. 5	James Griffin: <i>Utilitarian Accounts: State of Mind or State of the World?</i>
Jan. 9	John Stuart Mill: <i>Utilitarianism</i> [chapter 2; pp. 30 – 41]
Jan. 10	John Stuart Mill: <i>Utilitarianism</i> [chapter 4; pp. 56 – 62]
Jan. 12	John Stuart Mill: <i>Utilitarianism</i> [chapter 2; pp. 41 – 49]

Jan. 16	Andrew Walton: <i>Consequentialism, Indirect Effects and Fair Trade</i>
Jan. 17	Kevin Smith: <i>Against Homeopathy – A Utilitarian Perspective</i>
Jan. 19	Mark T. Nelson: <i>What the Utilitarian Cannot Think</i>
Jan. 23	John Stuart Mill: <i>Utilitarianism</i> [chapter 5; pp. 62 – 74]
Jan. 24	John Stuart Mill: <i>Utilitarianism</i> [chapter 5; pp. 75 – 84]
Jan. 26	Alastair Norcross: <i>Great Harms from Small Benefits Grow</i> *** (Optional) First Paper Due ***
Jan. 30	Bernard Williams: <i>Utilitarianism: For and Against</i>
Jan. 31	Review
Feb. 2	*** Midterm Test ***
Feb. 6	Thomas Hobbes: <i>Leviathan</i> [chapter 13; pp. 123 – 127]
Feb. 7	Thomas Hobbes: <i>Leviathan</i> [chapter 14; pp. 128 – 138]
Feb. 9	Thomas Hobbes: <i>Leviathan</i> [chapter 15; pp. 138 – 150]
Feb 12-16	Reading Break – No Class
Feb. 20	Susan Dimock: <i>Why All Feminists Should Be Contractarians</i>
Feb. 21	Angus Taylor:
Feb. 23	

Mar. 6	Todd Calder: <i>Kant and Degrees of Wrongness</i>
Mar. 7	J. Skidmore: <i>Duties to Animals: The Failure of Kant's Moral Theory</i>
Mar. 9	Sarah Carter: <i>A Kantian Ethics Approach to Moral Bioenhancement</i>
Mar. 13	Philippa Foot: <i>The Problem of Abortion and the Doctrine of the Double Effect</i>
Mar. 14	Judith Jarvis Thomson: <i>The Trolley Problem</i>
Mar. 16	R. L. Albin: <i>Sham Surgery Controls are Mitigated Trolleys</i>
Mar. 20	Aristotle: <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> [Book I; pp. 1 – 18]
Mar. 21	Aristotle: <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> [Book II; pp. 18 – 30]
Mar. 23	Aristotle: <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> [Book III; pp. 40 – 45]
	*** Term Paper Due ***
Mar. 27	Rosalind Hursthouse: <i>Virtue Theory and Abortion</i> , pp. 223 – 233
Mar. 28	Rosalind Hursthouse: <i>Virtue Theory and Abortion</i> , pp. 233 – 246
Mar. 30	Good Friday – No Class
April 3	Charles E. Harris Jr.: <i>The Good Engineer: Giving Virtue its Due in Engineering Ethics</i>
April 4	Julia Driver: <i>Virtue Theory</i>
April 6	Review + “One Theory to Rule Them All” Class Debate

Note: There will be a **Registrar Scheduled Exam in April**

WARNING: I do not control the date of this exam, and I do not have the power to change this date once it is scheduled by the Uvic Office of the Registrar. Therefore, *do not book travel during the exam schedule* until you know the dates of your exams.