

# INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS

Philosophy 108 - Spring 2013

Lecture: T, Th 2:15 – 3:35 Hickman 138

Professor Holly Smith  
E. J. Green  
Lucy Jordan  
Stephanie Leary  
Una Stojnic

**Draft Edition**

## 1. LECTURES AND DISCUSSION SECTIONS

The lectures take place *every* Tuesday and Thursday from 2:15 – 3:35 in Hickman Hall 138. **Discussion sections meet once every week.** All students must be enrolled in one of the following discussion sections:

- 01 (T, 3:55 – 5:15 PM) in HCK 210 – Ms. Jordan
- 02 (T, 3:55 – 5:15 PM) in HCK 113 – Mr. Green
- 03 (T, 3:55 – 5:15 PM) in HCK 131 – Ms. Leary
- 04 (T, 3:55 – 5:15 PM) in HCK 127 – Ms. Stojnic
- 05 (Th 12:35 – 1:55 PM) in HCK 216 – Ms. Jordan
- 06 (Th 12:35 – 1:55 PM) in HCK 130 – Mr. Green
- 07 (Th 12:35 – 1:55 PM) in HCK 202 – Ms. Leary
- 08 (Th 12:35 – 1:55 PM) in RAB 207 – Ms. Stojnic

## 2. OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

### Professor Smith

Office: 3 Seminary Place, Room 111, College Avenue Campus

Philosophy Department Office phone: 732-932-9861 (to leave messages only)

E-mail: [hsmith@philosophy.rutgers.edu](mailto:hsmith@philosophy.rutgers.edu) (The best way to contact Prof. Smith is via email. Please email Prof. Smith only after discussing your question with your TA.)

Office Hours: Tuesday 11 – 12

Thursday from the end of class in the lecture room, and other times, by appointment.

**Mr. Green**

Office:

Philosophy Department Office phone: 732-932-9861 (to leave messages only)

E-mail: (The best way to contact Mr. Beddor is via email.)

Office Hours: Monday, 2:00 – 3:00 PM; Wednesday, 3:00 – 4:00 PM

**Ms. Jordan**

Office:

Philosophy Department Office phone: 732-932-9861 (to leave messages only)

E-mail: (The best way to contact Mr. Dees is via email.)

Office Hours: Monday, 10:00 – 11:00 AM; Friday, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**Ms. Leary**

Office:), College Avenue Campus

Philosophy Department Office phone: 732-932-9861 (to leave messages only)

E-mail: (The best way to contact Mr. Hicks is via email.)

Office Hours: Monday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM; Tuesday, 12:30 – 1:30 PM

**Ms. Stojnic**

Office:

Philosophy Department Office phone: 732-932-9861 (to leave messages only)

E-mail: (The best way to contact Mr. Dees is via email.)

Office Hours: Monday, 10:00 – 11:00 AM; Friday, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

NOTE: Students are often uncertain how to address an email message to their instructor. Although email messages can be somewhat informal, it is *not* appropriate to start them “Hey professor...” It *is* appropriate to start your email message “Dear Professor Smith:” or “Dear Mr. Beddor,” etc.

## GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

### I. Course Goals

“I was first attracted to moral philosophy because, like Socrates, it seems to me that the most important question we face in life is how best to live.”

- David McNaughton

This course will introduce you to philosophical ethics – questions about right and

wrong and good and evil that have puzzled and provoked thinkers for hundreds of years. We will read and discuss major Western ethical theories and important moral philosophers, and will also debate controversial moral dilemmas such as abortion and our obligations to help the desperately poor. Your work on these topics will help develop your capacity to analyze texts and issues, to criticize and construct philosophical arguments, to present your thoughts in clear written form, and to become a more creative problem-solver. When you complete the course, you should be better prepared to recognize, confront, and think critically about difficult questions that we all encounter in our daily and professional lives.

Thus the major goals of the course are to:

- familiarize you with major traditional theories, thinkers, and concepts in ethics,
- build your skills in analyzing and solving ethical problems,
- enable you to understand, criticize, and construct philosophical arguments, and defending your views both orally and in writing,
- assist your development of creative problem-solving techniques,
- help you improve your writing through the paper assignments and essay examinations.

Philosophy, like riding a bicycle, is best learned by doing it. For that reason lectures are a poor substitute for engaging in philosophical argument yourself. The discussion sections are your opportunity to participate actively in thinking and arguing about philosophical questions. **Thus attendance is required in the discussion sections.** You should plan not only to attend but also to contribute to the debates that will take place. (If in the past you've been somewhat shy about talking in class, this is a low-stakes chance to practice and develop self-confidence before you have to speak up during job interviews or other high-stakes occasions. Take advantage of it!) What you learn in these sessions can far outlast what you learn in the lectures.

This course meets SAS Core Curriculum Goal 'o': Examine critically philosophical and other theoretical issues concerning the nature of reality, human experience, knowledge, value, and/or cultural production. Assessment will be by an SAS generic rubric embedded in the evaluation criteria laid out in this syllabus.

## II. Course website

Materials relevant for the course are available on **Sakai@Rutgers**, the electronic course platform offered by Rutgers. To access these materials, go to <http://sakai.rutgers.edu/> and find the course website for *01:730:108:01 Sp13*. Please note that you will need a Rutgers NetID to access Sakai. If you normally use a non-Rutgers email program (e.g., gmail or Yahoo), you should arrange to have your Rutgers email forwarded to your other email address so that you will automatically receive announcements from the course. You must use your NetID to access the course website, for example to retrieve another copy of this syllabus, or to access course assignments or required readings.

Once you're at the Sakai website, log in using your NetID. When you are logged in, you will go to "My Workspace." This is your start page as well as your personal workspace that no one else can see. Across the top of "My Workspace" you will see a series of tabs. These tabs will help you navigate between different class and project worksites on Sakai. The tab for this course is labeled **01:730:108:01 Sp13**. Click on the tab to enter the class worksite. All students in the course should have been automatically joined to the site. If you cannot find the tab for the class, contact your TA. (Note that if you registered late or are paying tuition late, it will take about 24 hours after you register for a course to get access to Sakai. Also note that if you subsequently encounter problems with your computer or your financial aid status at the university, your access to Sakai and to your Rutgers email will be temporarily cut off. In addition, occasionally the Sakai site itself goes down temporarily. **For this reason you should make sure you have personal copies of crucial materials from this class, such as the syllabus and paper assignments, either printed or downloaded to your computer.**)

On the class website, the "Announcements" button will open a page containing messages to all class members about such events as class cancellations or changes in assignments. Important announcements will also be sent out as emails to each class member. *Make sure you set your Sakai options so that you will receive all high-priority announcements.* **Critically important announcements (such as a class cancellation notice, or your TA's failure to receive your submitted paper) will be sent to you during the semester, and you must ensure that you will see these, either by frequently checking your Rutgers email account, or by arranging for it to automatically forward messages to your regular non-Rutgers email account.**

The "**Resources**" button will open a page containing a number of folders. The folder labeled "**Syllabus and Reading Lists**" contains a copy of the course syllabus (and any future revisions of this) and a shorter list of required readings and assignments. The folder "**Other required readings**" contains required readings that are only available on Sakai. The folder "**Paper assignments**" will contain copies of the paper assignments. The folder "**Grading Information**"

contains information on the grading scale used in the course, the grading scheme for the in-class quizzes, an explanation how grades on your papers will be determined. The folder "**Absence Policies**" contains documents explaining the policy on excused absences in the course, and a copy of the form for approving legitimate absences. The folder "**Lecture slides**" will contain the PowerPoint slides from the lectures. These will normally be available by midnight the night before lecture so that you can print them out and use them as a framework for taking notes on the lecture. The folder "**Lecture outlines**" contains brief outlines for *only* the first few lectures. If you wish, you can use these to organize your own notes; and you can use them as models for outlines you will create for subsequent lectures to help you study for the exams. The folder "**Optional Readings**" contains the full-text optional news reports and other optional readings (arranged by the date for which they are recommended, then in alphabetical order by author's last name) mentioned in the Syllabus. The folder "**Writing Tips**" contains several documents offering advice on how to write a philosophy paper, how to improve your writing skills, and how to deal with common puzzlements about apostrophes, appropriate use of pronouns, etc. The folder "**Examinations**" contains a sample midterm examination question. "**Useful Websites**" contains links to several of the websites mentioned in this syllabus as well as others that may prove useful. The file "**Glossary**" contains a glossary, or dictionary, of the major philosophical terms and names encountered in the course. There are other useful folders as well; explore them to find out what's available.

To view the contents of a folder, click on its name, e.g., "Optional Readings." To return to the "Resources" page from within that folder, click on the small return arrow button near the top of the Sakai page.

**WHEN USING SAKAI, NOTE THAT YOU SHOULD NOT USE YOUR COMPUTER'S "BACK" BUTTON TO RETURN TO A PREVIOUS PAGE IN SAKAI. THIS WILL CAUSE TROUBLE. INSTEAD, CLICK ON THE RELEVANT SAKAI BUTTON (e.g., if you want to return to the "Resources" tool from the "Announcements" tool, click on "Resources," or if you are inside a sub-folder within one of the tools, click on the little return arrow at the top of the Sakai page to return to the higher-level folder).**

### III. Course texts

**(A)** You must purchase (or borrow) an **i-Clicker personal response device** for use in lecture. Either the i-Clicker I or the i-Clicker II will work for this class. **(Note: other brands of clickers (personal response systems) will not work in this class. You will not be able to use your smartphone as a clicker in this class.)** These are available from the Rutgers Barnes and Noble bookstore, and from other sources, including on-line vendors. **You must bring your i-Clicker to lecture on January 29**, and every lecture thereafter. If you do not

bring your i-Clicker to a lecture you will not be able to take the quizzes on that day, and will lose points.

**(B)** The *required* readings are listed under "**REQ**" on the syllabus below, and are drawn from the following sources, which should be purchased:

**"Timmons"** = Mark Timmons, *Conduct and Character* (Sixth Edition; Belmont, California: Thomson Wadsworth, 2012) [ISBN-13: 9780495502371] – available in the Rutgers Bookstore and the Cook-Douglass Co-op Bookstore as well as New Jersey Books. **NOTE: DO NOT PURCHASE THE 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION; WE WILL USE READINGS THAT APPEAR ONLY IN THE 6<sup>TH</sup> EDITION.**

**"(CP)"** = Course pack: additional required readings which are available in a course pack that can be purchased at the Rutgers Bookstore.

**"(SAK)"** = A few other required readings that will be available on Sakai (in the folder "Other required readings" in the "Resources" tool).

**NOTE:** Several copies of *Conduct and Character* and of the *Course Pack* will be available in the Douglass Library for those of you who would rather read the materials in the library than purchase them. However, this will not be a very convenient method of accessing these materials. If you know someone who took Philosophy 108 during Spring 2011 or Spring 2012, the readings in the course pack for those courses are almost identical with the ones in our course pack, so you could buy or borrow these editions.

**(C)** In addition, I have provided *optional* readings that are reports of current events relevant to some of our topics. These are marked **OPTIONAL NEWS REPORTS** and are available (by lecture date) through Sakai in the "Optional Readings" folder under "Resources." You are not required to read these articles, but may find them interesting as updates on recent events related to the controversies we will be discussing. These articles are marked **(SAK)** on the syllabus below. If you discover an additional news report that you believe your classmates would find interesting and relevant to our topics, please bring it to the attention of your TA and we will try to make it available. There are also a few other readings that may be of interest in this same Sakai folder.

#### **IV. Graded assignments**

The course includes several different kinds of assignments in addition to the readings:

**(A) Required attendance in discussion section.** See Section V, VI and VII below. See also the file "Legitimate and Excused Absences" in the "Grading

Information" folder in Sakai Resources.

### **(B) In-class quizzes on the various materials we will read**

Every lecture, starting with the lecture on **January 29**, will include two in-class quizzes on the material for the day. Each quiz will consist of one True/False question. The first quiz will be given shortly after class starts and will be based on the readings assigned for the day. The second quiz will be given at the end of class and will be based on the material covered in the lecture. There are 23 pairs of in-class quizzes.

We are using in-class quizzes because extensive research shows that people understand and remember material much longer if they are asked about it immediately after learning it. Thus this strategy is intended to help you remember the material from the readings and lecture, and alert you to any misunderstandings you might have. This is the reason for giving you 1 quiz point even if you answer a quiz incorrectly. The correct answers will be posted through a Sakai announcement within 48 hours of the quiz. See the file "Grading Scheme for Quizzes" in the Sakai folder "Grading Information" for more detailed information.

### **(C) Mid-Term examination**

The mid-term examination will be given during class on **March 7**. It will cover all the materials covered in the course up to that date, and will be assigned a letter grade. It will consist of several 20-minute essay questions, and you will have some choice of questions.

### **(D) Papers**

There are two paper assignments. The first will be three–five pages long, while the second will be five–seven pages long (double-spaced and printed, not handwritten). Topics will be assigned later, but will involve your analysis and argument about one of the topics discussed in class. No outside reading will be required. The first paper is due **February 26**, while the second paper is due **April 18**. It will not be possible to rewrite your paper for a different grade. Papers must be submitted both in hard copy and electronically. In order to reassure you that others are not cheating by plagiarizing materials in their papers, electronic submissions will be via Turnitin.com. Instructions for Turnitin.com submissions will be included on the paper assignment sheet. You must turn in the two required papers in order to pass the course. To count as being "turned in," a paper must represent a substantial effort to engage with the paper topic.

**NOTE:** If you would like to improve your writing generally, you should avail yourself of the free personal tutoring, or the Online Writing Lab, available

through the Plangere Writing Center (for information, check <http://plangere.rutgers.edu>). Drop-in tutoring is not available (except through the Online Writing Lab), so if you would like to use the personal tutoring service, sign up for the relevant start date for spring term sessions.

### **(E) Final examination**

The final examination will be held in our classroom ....

The examination will be cumulative – i.e., cover the material from the whole course – but it will emphasize the material after the midterm examination. It will consist of essay questions. You must take the final exam to pass the course.

**NOTE:** You must submit both papers (both electronically and in hard copy) and take both the midterm and the final examination in order to pass the course.

## **V. Grading**

All grading will be done "blind" to avoid any inadvertent biases in assessing your work. Your papers and examinations will be identified by your student number, not your name.

The rubric (set of criteria) we will use for evaluating your papers is available in the "Grading information" folder on the Sakai site under "Resources." You should read this before starting to write each paper.

The grading scale is also available in the "Grading information" folder on the Sakai site under "Resources."

For each assignment and again at the end of the term, we will utilize a rough curve in order to even out any systematic differences in evaluations by different teaching assistants. Note this may mean that your final course grade is slightly lower than you expected, given your grades on individual assignments.

See the "Grading Scheme for In-Class Quizzes" (in the "Grading information" folder on the Sakai site under "Resources") for details about how the quizzes will be graded.

In calculating your overall grade, weights ascribed to each of the assignments for the course are as follows:

Attendance in discussion section (cumulative) .....	5 %
In-class quizzes (cumulative).....	15 %
1 <sup>st</sup> paper.....	20 %



Mid-term examination.....	20 %
2 <sup>nd</sup> paper.....	20 %
Final examination.....	20 %
 Total.....	 100 %

**In addition, if your overall grade is on a borderline, your TA will favorably take into account your class room participation.** In other words, if you have been an active and constructive participant in classroom discussion, this will help your grade if it would otherwise be on the borderline between two grades. Asking questions that you worry might be “stupid” questions will *not* penalize you (and remember, if you’re puzzled by something, it’s a good bet that other students in the class are also puzzled). So plunge into the discussions!

## VI. Late submissions and missed examinations

If you have a doctor's or other serious excuse (such as a severe family emergency) for submitting your paper late, you will not be penalized. **Your TA has the final authority to decide whether or not you have a legitimate excuse for late submission of papers or missed examinations.** Whenever possible it is wise to discuss an expected absence in advance with your TA. If you submit your paper late without such an excuse, your grade will be lowered.

If you have a doctor's or other official excuse for having to miss the mid-term examination or the final examination, we will arrange for you to take a make-up examination at a different time.

## VII. Attendance policy

Philosophy is difficult, and not readily learned on one's own. Moreover, it is best learned by engaging in discussions about it. Your role in discussion section is not only to enhance your own learning, but also to help other students learn by engaging *them* in discussion. Although most of the readings are relatively short, many of them are dense and difficult. For these reasons we **require attendance in all the discussion sections starting in the second week of the semester, i.e., January 29/31.** Cumulative attendance in discussion section will provide 5% of your grade. If you have an approved legitimate excuse for missing a discussion section or the quizzes in a lecture, it will not count against your grade. **See the important “Legitimate and Excused Absences” policy in the Absence Policies file in Sakai Resources. This policy is complicated; make sure you understand it.** Legitimate absences from Lecture or Section **must be approved by Professor Smith, using the “Legitimate Absence Form”** in the Absence Policies file in Sakai Resources.

Note that you may miss 3 discussion sections without penalty (**but note also that your first legitimate absences count towards the number of missed sections**

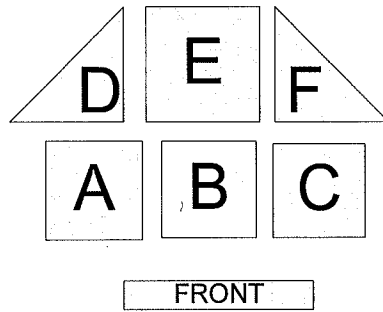
**on the schedule below).** The quizzes will be graded in such a manner that you may miss 3 lectures (and six quizzes) without penalty.

We also strongly encourage (but do not require) attendance in all the lectures. If you must miss one of the lectures, you would be wise to arrange to obtain notes from another student. Although attendance at the lecture is not required, poor attendance will adversely affect your understanding of the material and your ability to earn a strong grade. Note also that your grade will be directly diminished if poor attendance prevents you from taking many of the daily in-class quizzes. **For more details, see the important “Legitimate and Excused Absences” policy in the Grading Information file in Sakai Resources.**

## VIII. Classroom conduct

This is a very large lecture class. Discourteous student conduct in large lectures has the potential to seriously degrade the ability of other students to focus on the material being discussed. Such activities as holding private conversations, passing notes, texting or talking on cell phones, arriving late, reading newspapers, checking Facebook pages, and taking naps all create an atmosphere in which high quality teaching and serious learning are very difficult. To foster an atmosphere more conducive to thinking and learning, the following policies will be in effect in this course:

- Cell phones, pagers, and similar devices must be turned off before the class begins. In a serious emergency (such as grave family illness) you may leave your cell phone on if you anticipate a call connected with the emergency. Please place your phone in “vibrate” mode. In this case, sit at the end of a row near an exit, and leave the lecture room immediately to answer the phone.
- Private conversations and such activities as passing notes, texting, playing video games, reading newspapers, browsing the web, checking Facebook or other websites not related to the course, and taking naps are not permitted. **If you anticipate that you will not be able to stay awake and attentive during class on any particular day, don't come to class.** Your sleeping in class is rude to the instructor and distracting to other students.
- Students are expected to arrive on time and to stay for the entire class. Because the bus system sometimes makes on-time arrival impossible, I request that the **front row of seats in Section D** (see diagram) be left empty for late-comers. If you arrive late, take a seat in this row, and do so as quietly as possible. (However, if you arrive late but want to use a laptop to take notes, sit instead in one of the outside seats in Section D as mentioned below.) If you can't stay for the entire lecture, don't come at all, since your departure will distract other students trying to listen to the lecture: instead arrange to borrow notes from another student.



- I will end the class on time. Do not start packing up your papers until the class has been dismissed.
- Some students like to take notes on their laptops. Unfortunately this can be highly distracting to other students. If you want to use your laptop to take notes, please sit in the **outside seats of Sections D and F** (there are some electrical outlets along these walls), or the **back two rows of Section E**.

## IX. Student participation in lecture

Although discussion in a large lecture cannot be as active as in the discussion sections, nonetheless I will encourage it whenever possible. I also want to respond to student questions about the material and topic assigned for the day. If you email me ([hsmith@philosophy.rutgers.edu](mailto:hsmith@philosophy.rutgers.edu)) by 9:00 the evening before a lecture, describing a question you would like to see addressed, if possible I will work a discussion of it into the lecture. *Copy your TA on your email.* If I can't address your question in lecture, your TA will try to cover it in the next discussion section.

## X. Lunch-with-the-professor program

In order to make it possible for me to become better acquainted with you individually, the Office of the Vice President for Undergraduate Education has provided financial support so that I can invite a number of you to join me for lunch throughout the term. A description of the program is available under Sakai Resources in the folder "Lunch-with-the-Professor Program." Announcements will be made later about how to sign up for these lunches if you are interested.

## XI. Disability accommodation

If you need a disability accommodation, please make arrangements with your TA at the beginning of the semester, or (for newly arising conditions) as soon as you become aware that your situation requires accommodation. Arrangements for examination accommodations should be made with Prof. Smith. You must present an official Letter of Accommodation to be entitled to accommodation services.

## XII. Cheating and plagiarism

Cheating on tests or plagiarizing materials in your papers deprives you of the educational benefits of preparing these materials appropriately. It is personally dishonest to cheat on a test or to hand in a paper based on unacknowledged words or ideas that someone else originated. It is also unfair, since it may give you an undeserved advantage over your fellow students who are graded on the basis of their own work. In this class we take cheating very seriously. All suspected cases of cheating and plagiarism will be automatically referred to the Office of Student Conduct, and we will recommend penalties appropriate to the gravity of the infraction. Possible penalties include failing the course, suspension, or even permanent expulsion from Rutgers. The university's policy on Academic Integrity is available at [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI\\_Policy\\_9\\_01\\_2011.pdf](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI_Policy_9_01_2011.pdf). I strongly advise you to familiarize yourself with this document, both for this class and for your other classes and future work. To help protect you, and future students, from plagiarism, we require all papers to be submitted through Turnitin.com.

Since what counts as cheating and plagiarism is not always clear, I quote the definitions given in Rutgers' policy of various infractions that might occur in this course:

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is the use of another person's words, ideas, or results without giving that person appropriate credit. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or appropriate indentation and both direct quotation and paraphrasing must be cited properly according to the accepted format for the particular discipline or as required by the instructor in a course.

**Cheating:** Cheating is the use of inappropriate or prohibited materials, information, sources, or aids in any academic exercise. Cheating also includes submitting papers, research results and reports, analyses, etc. as one's own work when they were, in fact, prepared by others.

**Fabrication:** Fabrication is the invention or falsification of sources, citations, data, or results, and recording or reporting them in any academic exercise.

**Facilitation of Dishonesty:** Facilitation of dishonesty is knowingly or negligently allowing one's work to be used by other students without prior approval of the instructor or otherwise aiding others in committing violations of academic integrity. A student who intentionally facilitates a violation of academic integrity can be considered to be as culpable as the student who receives the impermissible assistance, even if the facilitator does not benefit personally from the violation.

## TWO SPECIAL NOTES:

- Students often assume that because information is available on the Web, it is public information, does not need to be formally referenced, and can be used without attribution. This is a mistake. **All** information and ideas that you derive from other sources, whether written, spoken, or *electronic*, must be attributed to their original source. Such sources include not just written or electronic materials, but people with whom you may discuss your ideas, such as your roommate, friends, or family members. They deserve credit for their contributions too!
- Bringing in an iClicker for a friend in order to take the quizzes for him or her counts as *Facilitation of Dishonesty*. This is a form of cheating just like taking a midterm exam for a friend. If you bring in a friend's iClicker, you are just as culpable as your friend. **The penalty I will recommend in such cases is an automatic deduction of three letter grades from both students' cumulative quiz grades** (thus, if you would have received an A for your cumulative quiz scores, you will instead receive a C+).

Judgments about plagiarism can be subtle. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask for guidance from your TA.

**Class Schedule follows on next page**

## PHIL 108 CLASS SCHEDULE Spring 2013

Read selections before the lecture for which they are assigned, so that you are prepared for the in-class quiz, the lecture, and your discussion section. Because philosophical argumentation can be unfamiliar and difficult, you should plan on reading each selection **at least twice** in order to maximize your understanding of it – ideally, read it before lecture or discussion section, and then again after lecture.

Please note: Details on this Class Schedule may be changed from time to time. Such changes will be announced in lecture and through Sakai Announcements.

### Jan 22: Introduction

**REQ: Timmons, *part of*** Chapter 1 "Introduction to Moral Theory": Sections "Basic Moral Concepts," "The Aims of Moral Theory," "The Role of Moral Principles in a Moral theory," "The Structure of a Moral Theory, and "Brief Summary," pp. 1 - 9.

#### OPTIONAL NEWS REPORT:

**(SAK)** Wasley, Paula. "Students Want Stronger Focus on Social Responsibility," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, April 18, 2008.

### Jan 24: Psychological Egoism

**REQ: Timmons**, Chapter 2 "Egoism": readings by Plato and ***part of*** Shoemaker, up to (but not including) the Section titled "Ethical Egoism," pp. 17 – 25.

#### OPTIONAL NEWS REPORTS:

**(SAK)** Jack Healy, "In Seconds Before Blast, the Making of a Hero," *New York Times*, December 16, 2010

**(SAK)** Sally Satel, "Desperately Seeking a Kidney," *The New York Times*, December 16, 2007.

### Jan 29: Ethical Egoism; Evaluating Moral Theories [Attendance in section is required starting this week]

**REQ: Timmons**, Chapter 2 "Egoism": ***remainder of*** Shoemaker selection, pp. 25 – 35.

**Timmons, *remainder of*** Chapter 1, "Introduction to Moral Theory," Section titled "How to Evaluate a Moral Theory," pp. 9 – 15.

### Jan 31: Consequentialism I [Bring your i-Clicker to lecture starting today!]

**REQ: Timmons**, first three readings (Bentham, Mill, and Nozick) in Chapter 5 "Consequentialism," pp. 109 – 123.

**(CP)** William Shaw, "The Consequentialist Perspective," from Russ Schafer-Landau, ed., *Ethical Theory* (Malden, Massachusetts: Blackwell Publishing Ltd., 2007), pp. 462 - 468.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORT:**

**(SAK)** Gardiner Harris: "British Balance Benefit vs. Cost of Latest Drugs," *The New York Times*, December 3, 2008.

**Feb 5: Consequentialism II**

**REQ: Timmons**, *part of* third reading (Darwall) in Chapter 5 "Consequentialism," up to (but not including) Section titled "Rule Utilitarianism," pp. 124 – 130.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORT:**

**(SAK)** Seth Mydans, "Recalculating Happiness in a Himalayan Kingdom," *The New York Times* 5-7-09

**Feb 7: Applied Issue I: Genetic Engineering**

**REQ: (CP)** Ronald Dworkin, "Playing God: Genes, Clones, and Luck" from John Arthur, ed., *Morality and Moral Controversies*, (7<sup>th</sup> ed.; New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2005), pp. 230 - 235.

**(CP)** Michael J. Sandel, "The Case Against Perfection," from Mark Timmons, ed., *Disputed Moral Issues* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007), pp. 348 - 357.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORTS:**

**(SAK)** Choe Sang-Hung, "South Korea Stretches Standards for Success," *The New York Times* 12-23-09.

**(SAK)** Gina Kolata, "After Setbacks, Small Successes for Gene Therapy," *The New York Times* 11-6-2009/

**(SAK)** Eric Konigsberg, "Beloved Pets Everlasting?" *The New York Times* 1-1-09

**(SAK)** Ross Douthat, "The Birds and the Bees (via the Fertility Clinic)," *The New York Times*, May 30, 2010

**Feb 12: Ross's Pluralism**

**REQ: Timmons**, all readings (Ross, Gill, and Sinnott-Armstrong) from Chapter 10 "Pluralism," pp. 312 – 336.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORT:**

(SAK) Adam Liptak, "When Law Prevents Righting a Wrong," *The New York Times*, May 4, 2008

**Feb 14: Rule Utilitarianism**

**REQ: Timmons**, *remainder of* Darwall (Section titled "Rule Utilitarianism") and final reading (Hooker) in Chapter 5 "Consequentialism," pp. 130 – 139.

**Feb 19: Applied Issue II: The Duty to Aid the Poor**

**REQ: (SAK)** Peter Singer, "Famine, Affluence, and Morality," in *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 1, No. 3 (Spring, 1972), pp. 229 - 243.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORTS:**

(SAK) David Leonhardt, "Economix: What \$1.2 Trillion Can Buy," *The New York Times*, January 17, 2007. Retrieved January 26, 2007 from *The New York Times Select* (<http://select.nytimes.com>).

(SAK) Nicholas D. Kristof, "Attack of the Worms," *The New York Times*, July 2, 2007. Retrieved July 3, 2007 from *The New York Times Select* (<http://select.nytimes.com>).

**Feb 21: Applied Issue II: The Duty to Aid the Poor, continued**

**REQ: (CP)** John Arthur, "Equality, Entitlements, and the Distribution of Income," in George Sher, ed., *Moral Philosophy*, (Second Edition; Belmont, California: Wadsworth Thomson, 2001), pp. 705 - 719.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORTS:**

(SAK) Editors, "Failing the World's Poor," *The New York Times*, September 24, 2008.

(SAK) Jared Diamond, "What Is Your Consumption Factor?" *The New York Times*, January 2, 2008.

(SAK) Donald G. McNeil Jr., "A \$10 Mosquito Net is Making Charity Cool," *The New York Times*, June 2, 2008.

**Feb 26: The Divine Command Theory FIRST PAPER DUE IN LECTURE**

**REQ: Timmons**, first and second readings (Mortimer and Timmons) from Chapter 3 "Ethics by Authority," pp. 37 – 55.



**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORT:**

(SAK) John Tierney, "Are Scientists Playing God? It Depends on Your Religion," *The New York Times*, November 20, 2007.

(SAK) Phil Zuckerman, "The Virtues of Godlessness," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, January 30, 2009

**Feb 28: Cultural and Ethical Relativism**

**REQ:** Timmons, third and fourth readings (Benedict and Rachels) from Chapter 3 "Ethics by Authority," pp. 55 – 68.

(CP) Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban, "Cultural Relativism and Universal Rights," from Christina Sommers and Fred Sommers, eds., *Virtue and Vice in Everyday Life* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.; Belmont, Ca.: Thomson Wadsworth, 2007), pp. 149 - 153.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORTS:**

(SAK) Anne Barnard, "Hindu-Muslim Family's Choice of Cremation Arouses Anger," *The New York Times*, October 4, 2008.

(SAK) Aisha Labi, "Turkey's Constitutional Court Halts Bid to Ease Ban on Head Scarves at Universities," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, "Today's News" June 6, 2008 (<http://chronicle.com/daily/2008/06/3133n.htm>)

(SAK) Rebecca Goldstein, "A View of the Truth: Spinoza's Faith in Reason," *The New York Times*, July 31, 2006

**March 5: The Role of Psychology and Evolution in Ethics**

**REQ:** (SAK) Steven Pinker, "The Moral Instinct," *The New York Times* (January 13, 2008), pp. 1 – 15.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORT:**

(SAK) Martin A. Nowak, "Generosity: A Winner's Advice," *Nature* Vol. 456 (4 December 2008)

(SAK) Paul Bloom, "Moral Life of Babies," *The New York Times*, May 3, 2010

**Mar 7: MIDTERM EXAMINATION**

**Mar 12: Natural Law Theory I**

**REQ:** Timmons, first two readings (St. Thomas Aquinas and C.E. Harris) from Chapter 4 "The Natural Law Theory," pp. 69 – 93.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORT:**

(SAK) Laurie Goodstein, "U.S. Bishops Urged to Challenge Obama," *The New York Times*, November 11, 2008.

**Mar 14: Natural Law Theory II**

REQ: **Timmons**, third and fourth readings (Philippa Foot and Michael Gorr) from Chapter 4 "The Natural Law Theory," pp. 93 – 108.

**Mar 19 & 21: SPRING BREAK**

**Mar 26: Killing vs. Letting Die**

REQ: (CP) James Rachels, "Active and Passive Euthanasia," in David Boonin and Graham Oddie, eds., *What's Wrong?* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005), pp. 44 – 47.

(CP) Winston Nesbitt, "Is Killing No Worse Than Letting Die?" in David Boonin and Graham Oddie, eds., *What's Wrong?* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005), pp. 48 – 51.

**Mar 28: NO LECTURE. DISCUSSION SECTIONS WILL MEET AS USUAL.**

**Apr 2: Kant's Moral Theory I**

REQ: **Timmons**, first two readings (Kant and Glasgow) from Chapter 6 "Kantian Ethical Theory," pp. 140 – 165.

**Apr 4: Kant's Moral Theory II**

REQ: **Timmons**, third and fourth readings (O'Neill and Feldman) from Chapter 6 "Kantian Ethical Theory," pp. 166 – 177.

**Apr 9: Kant's Moral Theory III**

REQ: **Timmons**, continue third and fourth readings (O'Neill and Feldman) from Chapter 6 "Kantian Ethical Theory"

**Apr 11: Applied Issue III: Our Duties Towards Animals**

REQ: (CP) Peter Singer, "Down on the Factory Farm," from Tom Regan and Peter Singer, eds., *Animal Rights and Human Obligations* (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1976), pp. 23 - 32.

(CP) Peter Singer, "All Animals are Equal," from John Arthur, ed., *Morality*

and *Moral Controversies*, (7<sup>th</sup> ed.; New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2005), pp. 146 – 155.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORTS:**

(SAK) Natalie Angier, "Save a Whale, Save a Soul, Goes the Cry," *The New York Times*, June 25, 2010

(SAK) James Gorman, "U.S. Will Not Finance New Research Involving Chimps," *The New York Times*, December 15, 2011.

(SAK) Nicholas Kristof, "Humanity even for Nonhumans," *The New York Times*, April 9, 2009

(SAK) Donald G. McNeil Jr., "When Human Rights Extend to Nonhumans," *The New York Times*, July 13, 2008.

(SAK) William Neuman, "New Way to Help Chickens Cross to the Other Side," *The New York Times*, October 21, 2010

**Apr 16: Particularism**

**REQ: Timmons**, all readings (Sartre, McNaughton and Hooker) in Chapter 11 "Particularism," pp. 336 – 358.

**Apr 18: Virtue Ethics I SECOND PAPER DUE IN LECTURE**

**REQ: Timmons**, first and second readings (Aristotle and Hursthouse) from Chapter 8, "Virtue Ethics," pp. 232 – 252.

**Apr 23: Virtue Ethics II**

**REQ: Timmons**, third and fourth readings (Johnson and Adams) from Chapter 8, "Virtue Ethics," pp. 253 – 275.

**Apr 25: Contract Theory**

**REQ: Timmons**, first and second readings (Hobbes and Murphy) from Chapter 7, "Contract Theory," pp. 178 – 203.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORTS:**

Leslie Kaufman, "Partnership Preserves Livelihoods and Fish Stocks," *The New York Times*, November 27, 2011.

**Apr 30: Applied Issue IV: Abortion I**

**REQ: (SAK) Don Marquis**, "Why Abortion is Immoral," *The Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 86, No. 4 (April, 1989), pp. 183 - 202.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORTS:**

(SAK) Denise Grady, "Parents Torn Over Fate of Frozen Embryos," *The New York Times*, December 4, 2008.

(SAK) Michael Rispoli, "Doctor can skip calling embryo 'human being'," *Home News Tribune*, 9-13-07

(SAK) Kirk Johnson, "Proposed Colorado Measure on Rights for Human Eggs," *The New York Times*, November 18, 2007.

(SAK) Denise Grady, "Medical Nuances Drove 'No' Vote in Mississippi," *The New York Times* November 14, 2011.

**May 2: Applied Issue IV: Abortion II**

**REQ:** (SAK) Judith Jarvis Thomson, "A Defense of Abortion," *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (Autumn, 1971), pp. 47 - 66.

**OPTIONAL NEWS REPORTS:**

(SAK) Cornelia Dean, "Telling the Stories Behind the Abortions," *The New York Times*, November 6, 2007.

(SAK) Emily Bazelon, "The New Abortion Providers," *The New York Times*, July 7, 2010

(SAK) Ruth Padawer, "The Two-Minus-One Pregnancy," *The New York Times*, August 10, 2011

**Final Examination Review Session:**

**FINAL EXAMINATION**