

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Given time constraints, this schedule is subject to change. I will announce all changes in advance on the Sakai site for the course, as well as keep an up to date schedule there.

COURSE INTRODUCTION

Week 1: Overview

Wednesday January 10

Introductions

Friday January 12

Reading Philosophy and Logic 101 (links to readings announced on Sakai)

UNIT I: Challenges to morality

Week 2: Why be moral? (**FORUM POSTING BEGINS THIS WEEK**)

Monday January 15

NO CLASS MLK DAY

Wednesday January 17

*****SNOW DAY*****

Friday, January 19

*****SNOW DAY*****

Week 3: Meaning and objectivity

Monday January 22

Plato, "The Ring of Gyges"

Wednesday January 24

Steinberg, "Psychological Egoism"; Argument reconstruction workshop (links to readings announced on Sakai)

Friday January 26

Rachels, "The Challenge of Cultural Relativism"

UNIT II: Utilitarianism

Week 4: Classical utilitarianism

Monday January 29

Utilitarianism, selections

Wednesday January 31

Utilitarianism, selections

Friday February 2

Utilitarianism, wrap-up

Week 5: Contemporary utilitarianism and its critics

Monday February 5

Singer, "Famine, Affluence, and Morality"

Wednesday February 7

Watch Singer and MackAskill's TedTalks

Friday February 9

Srinivasan, "Stop the Robot Apocalypse"

****DEADLINE FOR CASE STUDY TOPIC APPROVAL**

UNIT III: Kant's Ethics and Kantian Ethics

Week 6: Kant's ethics

Monday February 12

Williams, the integrity objection

Wednesday February 14

Groundwork, selections

Friday February 16

Groundwork, selections

****DEADLINE FOR THESIS APPROVAL**

Week 7: Kantian ethics and its critics

Monday February 19

O'Neill, "Between Consenting Adults"

Wednesday February 21

O'Neill, ctd

****PEER REVIEW SWAP**

Friday February 23

Nagel, "Moral Luck"

UNIT III: Virtue ethics

Week 8: Aristotle's virtue ethics (**NO FORUM POST THIS WEEK**)

Monday February 26

****PEER REVIEW DUE**

NE, selections

Wednesday February 28

NE, selections

Friday March 2

NE wrap-up

****CRITICAL RESPONSE PAPER #1 DUE**

Week 9: Contemporary virtue ethics and its critics

Monday March 5

Hursthouse, "Virtue Theory and Abortion"

Wednesday March 7

Hursthouse, ctd

Friday March 9

Doris, the situationist critique

ENJOY SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS MARCH 12-MARCH 16

UNIT IV: Evaluating Ethical Theories

Week 10: Challenges for Ethical Theorizing

Monday March 19

Urmson, "Saints and Heroes"

Wednesday March 21

Wolf, "Moral Saints"

Friday March 23

Catch-up day

****PRELIMINARY GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS DUE**

UNIT V: Selected topics in social ethics

Week 11: Food ethics

Monday March 26

Singer, "All Animals Are Equal"

Wednesday March 28

Wolf, "Foodie Ethics"

Friday March 30

NO CLASS HELD- HOLIDAY

Week 12: Ethics and Education

Monday April 2

Case study (to be voted on)

Wednesday April 4

Commentary presentations

Friday April 6

Classroom debate

Week 13: Ethics and Gender

Monday April 9

Frye, "Oppression"

Wednesday April 11

Bartky, "Psychological Oppression"

Friday April 13

Bartky, "Feminine Masochism"

Week 14: Ethics and Race

Monday April 16

Grillo and Wildman, "Obscuring the Importance of Race: The Implications of Making Comparisons between Racism and Sexism (or Other Isms)"

Wednesday April 18

Lebron, "Thoughts on Racial Democratic Education and Moral Virtue" and watch "James Baldwin Debates William F. Buckley" (58:57 time)

Friday April 20

Lebron, "Black Love and Black Rage in America"

****FINAL GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS DUE**

UNIT V: Course conclusion/presentations

Week 15: Class presentations

Monday April 23

****PEER REVIEW SWAP**

Wednesday April 25

Friday April 27

LDOC

****PEER REVIEW DUE**

FINAL EXAM PERIOD: TUESDAY, MAY 8 at NOON