

SYLLABUS

Books [available through Labyrinth Books]

Required:

John Stuart Mill, *Utilitarianism* (**U**) (in *Utilitarianism and Some Other Essays* (**UE**))

Immanuel Kant, *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals* (**G**)

Friedrich Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals* (**GM**)

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* (**NE**)

Recommended:

Stephen Darwall, *Philosophical Ethics* (**PE**)

Other readings are accessible from V2 Classes Server (**V2**)

Tentative Schedule of Lectures and Readings

(* = Required Reading # = Recommended Reading)

September 2	Fundamental philosophical issues in ethics #PE : 3-14
7	Mill I *U : Ch. 1 #PE : 109-113, UE : 7-15
9	Mill II *U : first two paragraphs of Ch. 2 and all of Ch. 4 *Bentham , <i>Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation</i> , Ch. 4, UE : 86-89 #PE : 113-122
14	Mill III *U : paragraphs 3-17 of Ch. 2 (UE : 278-287)
16	Mill IV *U : rest of Ch. 2 (UE : 297-298) and all of Ch. 3 #PE : 123-132
21	Mill V *U : Ch. 5 *Rawls , "Two Concepts of Rules," (V2) #PE : 132-138, Mill, <i>On Liberty</i> , Ch. 4

- 23 Metaethics: the Basic Questions
 *Harman, “Ethics and Observation” (V2)
 #PE: 17-26
- 28 Ethical Naturalism
 #PE: 27-38
- 30 Theological Voluntarism
 *Ralph Cudworth, from *A Treatise Concerning Eternal and Immutable Reality*, pp. 248-252 (V2)
 #PE: 39-47
 FIRST PAPERS DUE
- October 5 Ideal Judgment Theories
 *Firth, “Ethical Absolutism and the Ideal Observer,” (V2)
 #PE: 55-61
- 7 Relativism
 *Lyons, “Ethical Relativism and the Problem of Incoherence (V2)
- 12 Noncognitivism
 *Ayer, “Critique of Ethics” (V2)
 #PE: 71-79
- 14 Kant I
 *G: Preface
 #Christine Korsgaard, Introduction (G, vii-xxx)
 #PE: 139-147
- 19 Kant II
 *G: Ch. 1
 #PE: 147-152
- 21 Kant III
 *G: reread Ch. 1; first half of Ch. 2 (to Ak. 4:428)
 #PE: 152-163
- 26 Kant IV
 *G: rest of Ch. 2 (Ak. 4:428-4:445)
 #PE: 163-169
- 28 Kant V
 *G: reread Ch. 2
 (Three) excerpts from Rawls, *A Theory of Justice*, (V2)
- November 2 Kant VI

	*G: Ch. 3 #PE: 169-173
4	Nietzsche I *GM, Preface and First Essay #PE: 177-186
9	Nietzsche II *GM, Second Essay #PE: 186-190
11	Aristotle I *Anscombe, "Modern Moral Philosophy," (V2) *NE: Bk. 1 #PE: 191-201
16	Aristotle II *NE: reread Bk. 1; Bk. 2 #PE: 203-208
18	Aristotle III *NE: reread. Bk. 2; Bk. 3; and Ch. 3-9 of Bk. 4 #PE: 208-210 <u>SECOND PAPERS DUE</u>
30	Aristotle IV *NE: Bk. 8 and Bk. 9
December 2	Aristotle V *NE: Bk. 6 #PE: 210-216

Course Requirements: two essays (one, 4-6 pages, and the other, 8-10 pages), a final exam, and active participation in discussion sections, weighted in the following percentages: 1st paper, 20%; 2nd paper, 35%; final exam, 35%; attendance and participation in discussion section, 10%. The final exam will be given December 15, 2010 at 2 pm.

My office hours will be Wednesday, 1-3 p.m, at 306 Connecticut Hall, and also by appointment. I can be reached by email at stephen.darwall@yale.edu