Philosophy 174  
Recent Ethical Theory  
Spring 2010

Instructor:  
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Required Works:


Note: Gibbard's *Thinking How to Live* (Harvard, 2003) was also ordered at the Coop, but I have decided not to assign material from it. Please treat it as a recommended book.

Assignments and Grading Policies:

In order to pass the course you must attend the discussion sections, contribute to the discussion blogs and complete all of the written work. There will be three 8-10 page papers, due on Monday, February 22, Monday, March 29, and Monday, May 10.

Extensions on the papers must be requested before the date on which the paper is due. Work that is late without an extension or beyond an extension will be discounted at the rate of one-third of a grade per day (A to A-, A- to B+, and so forth). Papers that receive a grade of B- or below for reasons other than lateness may be rewritten for a higher grade under the guidance of your section leader.

Discussion blogs for each section have been posted on the course website. All students are asked to post questions, objections, comments, and points they would like to hear discussed in section to the blog for their section.

The three papers will each count for approximately one-third of your grade, but active participation in section discussions, interesting contributions to the discussion blogs, and marked improvement in your written work will weigh in your favor and can improve your grade.
Topics, Reading Assignments, and Recommended Readings

Please note: You should do the reading before the lectures at which it will be discussed. The schedule of readings is tentative and subject to change.

If we get behind, Friday lectures may be scheduled, so please keep Fridays at 12:00 open.

Monday January 25 & Wednesday, January 27
   Introduction

Monday, February 1 & Wednesday, February 3
   Nagel, *The Possibility of Altruism*, Part II, pp. 27-76

Monday, February 8 & Wednesday, February 10

Monday, February 15: President’s Day Holiday

Monday, February 22 & Wednesday, February 24
   Scanlon, *What We Owe to Each Other*, Part I, Chapter 1, pp. 17-77

**First Paper Due Monday February 22**

Monday, March 1 & Wednesday, March 3
   Scanlon, *What We Owe to Each Other*, Chapter 4, pp. 147-188

Monday, March 8 & Wednesday, March 10
   Scanlon, *What We Owe to Each Other*, Chapter 5, pp. 189-247

March 13-21: Spring Break

Monday, March 22 & Wednesday, March 24
   Scanlon, *What We Owe to Each Other*, continued

Monday, March 29 & Wednesday, March 31
   Gibbard, *Wise Choices, Apt Feelings*:
   Part I, Chapter 1, pp. 3-9
   Part I, Chapters 3-4, pp. 36-82

**Second Paper Due Monday March 29**
Monday, April 5 & Wednesday, April 7
  Gibbard, *Wise Choices, Apt Feelings*:
  Part II, Chapters 7, pp. 126-152
  Part III, Chapters 8-9, pp. 153-188

Monday, April 12 & Wednesday, April 14
  Gibbard, *Wise Choices, Apt Feelings*:
  Part IV, Chapters 14-15, pp. 253-292

Monday, April 19 & Wednesday, April 21
  Korsgaard, *Self-constitution*, sections:
  1.1-1.2 (pp. 1-14); 1.4 (18-26); 2.1 (27-34); 4.3-4.5 (68-80); 5.1 (81-84)
  6.1-6.2 (109-121); 6.4 (124-132)

Monday, April 26 & Wednesday, April 28
  Korsgaard, *Self-constitution*, sections:
  7.1-7.2 (132-142); 8.1-8.2 (159-164); 8.5 (174-176); Chapter 9 (177-206); 10.2 (212-214)

SHOULD ALSO HAVE ASSIGNED 7.3.7 AND 7.4.1 (147-150)

**Third Paper Due: Monday, May 10**