

PIU33021 — Moral Philosophy

Module Information	
Module Code	PIU33021
Module Title	Moral Philosophy
Department	Philosophy
Year Group	Junior Sophister
Module Personnel	Dr. Ashley Shaw
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	10 ECTS
Semester	1
Contact Hours	22

Module Content	
Module Description	This module provides students with an introduction to moral philosophy, specifically focusing on normative ethics. The course begins with some topics in the philosophy of well-being and will examine theories of what makes a life go well. We will explore the relationship between well-being and pain, pleasure, as well as the fulfilment of desires and happiness. The core of the module focuses on normative ethics, where we will consider major theories of what makes something morally right or wrong. This will include utilitarianism and consequentialism more broadly, various deontological approaches to ethics, virtue ethics, as well as feminist approaches. Students will learn to critically evaluate arguments proposed in support of each of these theories in moral philosophy and to carefully formulate their views and arguments to develop their ethical perspectives.
Module Learning Aims	The aim of this module will be to introduce students to a range of topics in moral philosophy, including the main theories in normative ethics.
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module, students will be able to: describe and critically evaluate many contemporary moral theories; develop philosophical arguments; carefully read and

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	evaluate philosophical articles and texts and develop philosophical views about questions and topics in moral philosophy.
Indicative Reading / Resources	A piece of useful preliminary reading: Introduction (pp.1-10) of Driver, Julia. 2006. Ethics: The Fundamentals. Fundamentals of Philosophy. Wiley. An extended reading list will be provided at the start of the module.

Assessment

Assessment Components	Essay and Exam.
Assessment Details	Essay worth 50% and Exam worth 50%.

Additional Information

Prerequisites	None.
Co-requisites	None.