

Metaethics | PIU33112

Year	Junior Sophister
ECTS Credits	10
Contact Hours	22
Pre-requisite	None
Semester	2
Module Leader & Lecturer	Dr Emma Otterski
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Module Outline:

'Sharing is good', 'murder is wrong'. Moral discourse like this pervades everyday life from parent-child interactions to political debates and the law. But what do people mean when they express moral judgements? Are they aiming at truth and, if so, do they succeed? That is, do moral properties exist, and if so what kind of properties are they? In this course we will cover the central metaethical positions in relation to these questions and in doing so touch upon topics such as whether science can explain morality and how to understand cross-cultural differences in moral discourse.

Assessment:

2 Essays: 1 x midterm (25%)
 1 x end of module (75%)

Recommended Reading List:

An extensive and detailed reading list will be made available at the start of the module. The following will be useful background:

- Sayre-McCord, Geoff, "Metaethics", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2023/entries/metaethics/>
- Chrisman, Matthew. *What Is This Thing Called Metaethics* (Routledge, 2017)