



Moral Philosophy | PIU33023

Year	Senior Fresh
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	22 Lectures
Pre-requisite	None
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Dr Rachel Handley
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Module Outline:

Moral Philosophy can be split into three broad camps; normative ethics, applied ethics, and metaethics. In this module we will look at all three. In the first half of the module, before reading week, we will explore metaethics.

Key Questions/Topics

- What is the good?
- Is there such a thing as moral truth?
- Is all moral discourse erroneous?
- Is morality objective?
- What is subjectivism?
- What is moral anti-realism?
- What is moral realism?

In the second half of the module, after reading week, we will look at key topics in applied ethics and normative theory.

Key Topics

- Feminist Ethics
- The Big Three: Virtue Ethics, Utilitarianism, Kantian Ethics
- Climate Change Ethics
- Animal Ethics
- Euthanasia
- Abortion



Assessment:

Essay

1 essay. 50% of grade.

2500 words max.

Exam

1 exam question.

Worth 50% of grade.

Recommended Reading List:

An extended reading list will be circulated once the module has begun. The readings below will put you in good stead for starting the course.

- David Copp, Introduction: Metaethics and Normative Ethics, from the Routledge Handbook of Ethical Theory, Section 2
- Mark Van Roojen, Moral Cognitivism vs Non-Cognitivism:
<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/moral-cognitivism/>

Alexander Miller's Introduction to Contemporary Metaethics will be a very useful resource for the first half of the course. I'd highly recommend reading at least the introduction to prepare for week 1.