

PHRE 188. Summer Session I (2009). Reading Schedule:

The readings listed for each day should be done *prior* to class time. Unless otherwise indicated, readings are in *The Moral Life* (3rd Edition), ed. Louis Pojman, Oxford UP (2006). This schedule is subject to revision. "On BB" means that the reading is posted on Blackboard under "Course Documents." An asterisk (*) next to a reading denotes a *recommended* reading.

| | | |
|---|-------|---|
| <i>Self-interest & Altruism</i> | 5.26: | Introduction |
| | 5.27: | Thomas Hobbes, "On the State of Nature," 41-52 Plato, "The Ring of Gyges," 561-568 |
| | 5.28: | Ayn Rand, "In Defense of Ethical Egoism," 569-579 James Rachels, "A Critique of Ethical Egoism," 588-601 * Pojman, "Egoism and Altruism," 580-587 |
| | 5.29: | Philip Hallie, "From Cruelty to Goodness," 93-107 |
| | | |
| <i>Consequentialist & Duty-based Ethical Theories</i> | 6.1: | Jeremy Bentham, "Classical Utilitarianism," 239-244 John Stuart Mill, "Utilitarianism Refined," 245-249 |
| | 6.2: | Kai Nielsen, "A Defense of Utilitarianism," 250-264 |
| | 6.3: | Bernard Williams, "Against Utilitarianism," 265-277 Ursula Le Guin, "The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas," 278-284 Voltaire, "The Good Brahmin," 606-608 |
| | 6.4: | Immanuel Kant, "The Moral Law," 309-328 * William Frankena, "Kant's Theory," 329-332 |
| | 6.5: | Podcast interview from <i>Philosophy Bites</i> with Raimond Gaita on torture (on BB) Alan Dershowitz, "Want to Torture? Get a Warrant" (on BB) |
| | | |
| <i>Virtue & Well-Being</i> | 6.8: | Stanley Milgram, "An Experiment in Autonomy," 666-680 Martin Gansberg, "Moral Cowardice," 503-506 |
| | 6.9: | Aristotle, "Virtue Ethics," 409-424 * Bernard Mayo, "Virtue and the Moral Life," 425-430 |
| | 6.10: | Epicurus, "Hedonism," 609-615 The Buddha, "The Four Noble Truths," 638-643 Robert Nozick, "The Experience Machine," 644-646 |
| | 6.11: | Epictetus and Others, "The Stoic Catechism," 517-528 * Plutarch, "In Consolation to His Wife: Equanimity," 529-537 |
| | 6.12: | Martha Nussbaum, "Compassion and Terror," 955-979 |
| | | |
| <i>Some Moral Issues</i> | 6.15: | Judith Jarvis Thomson, "A Defense of Abortion," 788-807 Don Marquis, "Why Abortion is Immoral," 766-787 |
| | 6.16: | Jane English, "The Moderate Position: Beyond the Personhood Argument," 816-827 |
| | 6.17: | George Orwell, "Shooting an Elephant," 870-876 Peter Singer, "Animal Liberation: All Animals Are Equal," 879-895 |
| | 6.18: | Michael Pollan, "An Animal's Place," <i>New York Times</i> , 11.10.02 (on BB) William Baxter, "People or Penguins: The case for optimal pollution," 933-940 * Carl Cohen, "The Case Against Animal Rights," 896-901 |
| | 6.19: | Garrett Hardin, "The Tragedy of the Commons," 915-932 * Robert Heilbroner, "What Has Posterity Ever Done for Me?" 910-914 |
| | | |
| <i>Relativism, Moral Diversity, and Moral Dilemmas</i> | 6.22: | Ruth Benedict, "The Case for Moral Relativism," 157-165 Louis Pojman, "The Case Against Moral Relativism," 166-190 |
| | 6.23: | Mary Midgley, "Trying Out One's New Sword," 201-207 Jean Bethke Elshtain, "Judge Not?" 191-200 |
| | 6.24: | Nietzsche, Intro & "The Madman and the Death of God," 127-129 Plato, "Does Morality Depend on Religion?" 372-375 (from Plato's <i>Euthyphro</i>) |
| | 6.25: | Jean-Paul Sartre, "Existentialism is a Humanism," 681-690 * Herman Melville, "Billy Budd," 57-68 |
| | 6.26: | Viktor Frankl, "The Human Search for Meaning," 630-637 |
| | | |