

Ethics Reading List/General Instructions for MA Exam

Instructions:

Questions on the first section of the exam will be drawn from the reading list. Students should be familiar with the material on the reading list well in advance of taking the MA Ethics exam.

The exam usually will include a second section consisting of questions from recent graduate seminars (this may include not only courses labelled “PHIL 5430: Seminar in Ethics,” but also other graduate courses that have content relevant to ethics). Students are limited to answering no more than one question from this section. But they are not required to answer any questions from the second section – they may choose both of their questions from section one.

Copies of previous MA Ethics Exams are available, by contacting the department’s administrative assistant. Students are encouraged to look at these questions. Students taking an MA exam in any area also ought to contact the faculty member who is listed as the main coordinator for that area exam.

Reading List:

Aristotle. *Nichomachean Ethics*, (Books I-IV & X).

Bentham, Jeremy. *Principles of Morals & Legislation*, (Chapters 1 & 4).

Foot, Philippa, “Morality as a System of Hypothetical Imperatives.” *The Philosophical Review*, 81 (1972), p. 305-316.

Frye, Marilyn. “Oppression” in *The Politics of Reality*, (The Crossing Press, 1983), p. 1-16.

Gibbard, Allan. “Moral Judgment and the Acceptance of Norms.” *Ethics: An International Journal of Social, Political, and Legal Philosophy*, 96, (1985), pp. 5-21.

Gilligan, Carol. *In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women’s Development*, (Harvard University Press, 1982), Chapter 3.

Hume, David. *An Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals*, Sections I, II, V-VII (be sure not to confuse this with *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*).

Kamm, F. M. “Terror and Collateral Damage: Are They Permissible?” *The Journal of Ethics* (2005) 9: 381-401.

Kant, Immanuel, *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, (chapters 1 and 2, and the first eight paragraphs of chapter 3).

MacIntyre, Alasdair. *After Virtue*, (University of Notre Dame Press, 2nd edition, 1984), Chapter 14, 15, pp. 181-226.

Mackie, John. *Ethics: Inventing Right and Wrong*, (Penguin, 1977), Part 1, Sections 1, 2 and 7-9, p. 15-18 and p. 30-41.

Mill, John Stuart, *Utilitarianism*, (Chapters 1, 2, and 4).

Moore, GE. *Principia Ethica*, (Chapter 1, Sections 1-15).

Murdoch, Iris. "The Sovereignty of the Good Over Other Concepts." In *Existentialists and Mystics*, (Penguin, 1998), p. 363-385.

Nagel, Thomas. "War and Massacre" *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 1, pp. 123-144, (Winter, 1972).

Plato, *Republic* (Books II-IV, VI, VII).

Scanlon, TM. "Contractualism and Utilitarianism," in *Utilitarianism and Beyond*, (Cambridge University Press, 1982), ed. by Amartya Sen and Bernard Williams, p. 103-128.

Shue, Henry. "Torture," *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 7, pp. 124-143, (Winter, 1978).

Singer, Peter. "All Animals Are Equal..." Chapter 1 of *Animal Liberation* (New York Review of Books, 1975), p. 1-24

Singer, Peter. "Famine, Affluence, and Morality" *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 1, pp. 229-243, (Spring, 1972).

Stevenson, CL. "The Emotive Meaning of Ethical Terms," *Mind*, vol. 46, no. 181, p. 14-31 (January 1937).

Thomson, Judith. "A Defense of Abortion," *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 1, pp. 47-66, (Fall, 1971).