

**Philosophy 230**  
Virtue Theory  
**Spring 2023**

MW 1015-1130  
East Duke 108

Prof. Gopal Sreenivasan  
West Duke 210  
[gopal.sreenivasan@duke.edu](mailto:gopal.sreenivasan@duke.edu)

**Reading schedule**

Jan 11	Introduction
Jan 18	
Jan 23	Foot, "Virtues and vices," in her <i>Virtues and Vices</i> (California, 1978)
Jan 25	Hursthouse, <i>On Virtue Ethics</i> (Oxford, 1999), ch. 1
Jan 30	Hursthouse, <i>On Virtue Ethics</i> , ch. 8
Feb 1	Prichard, "Does moral philosophy rest on a mistake?" <i>Mind</i> (1912): 21-37
Feb 6	Sreenivasan, <i>Emotion and virtue</i> (Princeton, 2020), ch. 1, section 4
Feb 8	Driver, "The virtues and human nature," in Crisp (ed.) <i>How should one live?</i> (Oxford, 1996)
Feb 13	Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , bk 2, chh. i-v
Feb 15	Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , bk 2, chh. vi-ix
Feb 20	Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , bk 3, chh. i-v
Feb 22	Aristotle, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , bk 3, chh. vi-xii
Feb 27	Pears, "Courage as a mean," in Rorty (ed.) <i>Essays on Aristotle's Ethics</i> (California, 1980)
March 1	Sreenivasan, <i>Emotion and virtue</i> , ch. 9, part III
March 6	Miller, <i>Honesty</i> (Oxford, 2021), chh. 1-2
<b>March 8</b>	Miller, <i>Honesty</i> , chh. 3-4 <b>First essay due</b>
March 13	<i>Spring break.</i>
March 20	Miller, <i>Honesty</i> , chh. 5-6
March 22	No new reading
March 27	Ross and Nisbett, <i>The Person and the Situation</i> (McGraw-Hill, 1991), chh. 1 & 5
March 29	Doris, "Persons, Situations, and Virtue Ethics," <i>Noûs</i> 32 (1998): 504-30
April 3	Harman, "Moral Philosophy Meets Social Psychology," <i>Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society</i> 99 (1999): 315-331

- April 5        *No class*
- April 10      Urmson, "Saints and Heroes," in Melden (ed.) *Essays in Moral Philosophy* (University of Washington, 1958): 198-216
- April 12      Heyd, *Supererogation* (Cambridge, 1982), chh. 6-7
- April 17      Heyd, *Supererogation*, ch. 8
- April 19      Kamm, "Supererogation and obligation," *Journal of Philosophy* (1985) 82(3): 118-38
- April 24      Crisp, "Supererogation and virtue," *Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics* 3 (2014)
- April 26**     *No class*  
                  *End of lectures*  
                  **Second essay due**

### **Texts**

All readings except the Miller book will be made available in Sakai. Please purchase a copy of Miller.

### **Assignments**

Two longer essays will be required in this course (2000 words), as well as a weekly short essay (300-500 words). Each longer essay will be worth 33 percent of the final grade. The average of your top six shorter essay grades will make up the remaining 33 percent.

### **Office hours**

By appointment. Please e-mail me or arrange a meeting after class.

16 February, 2023