School of Humanities and Languages

ARTS1360: Philosophy, Morality, Society
Semester 1, 2016

Lecture times:
Mondays, 1pm Ainsworth G03
Tuesdays, 5pm, Central Lecture Block 8

Tutorials commence in week 2

1. Course Staff and Contact Details
2. Course Details
3. Learning and Teaching Rationale
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15. Course Schedule
1. Course Staff and Contact Details

Course Convenors and Lecturers

Dr Melissa Merritt  
Room: 341 Morven Brown  
Phone: 9385 2764  
Email: m.merritt@unsw.edu.au  
Consultation Time: Tuesdays 2:00 – 3:00

Dr Simon Lumsden  
Room: 335 Morven Brown  
Phone: 9385 2369  
Email: s.lumsden@unsw.edu.au  
Consultation Time: to be confirmed

Course Tutors:

Tutors for this course include Drs Merritt and Lumsden (contact details above), as well as:

Dr Joanne Faulkner (j.faulkner@unsw.edu.au)  
Ms Emily Hughes e.j.hughes@student.unsw.edu.au  
Mr Chris Rowe-Spencer christopher.rowe_spencer@student.unsw.edu.au

2. Course Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units of Credit (UoC)</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Course Description  
This course provides an introduction to some of the key figures and topics in moral, social, and political philosophy. Topics covered in moral philosophy include questions such as the nature of morality, moral judgment, moral virtue, values and ethical decision making. Topics covered in social and political philosophy include the character of human freedom, rights and responsibilities, and notions of justice. The course may also focus on a number of contemporary ethical issues to explore how morality and moral notions are articulated in today's society.

Course Aims

1. Within the context of philosophical discussions in the area of moral, social, and political philosophy, the course aims to provide an introduction to these fundamental aspects of philosophy:
   - modes of thinking and reasoning in philosophy
   - methods of philosophical analysis
   - reading philosophical texts
   - a selection of core questions in philosophy, focusing on specific philosophical issues and traditions.

2. The course will also examine aspects of how ethics intersects with other areas of philosophy, such metaphysics and epistemology — particularly through examination of the notions of human freedom and rational agency.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Awareness of a number of themes and debates in the area of moral, social, and political philosophy.

2. Experience with reflective engagement of central topics in moral, social, and political philosophy, with attention both to historical context as well as to philosophical argument surrounding these issues.
3. **Learning and Teaching Rationale**

Through close reading of core philosophical texts, writing exercises, and small group discussions, the course aims to initiate philosophical and general skills of reading, analysing, criticising, discussing, and writing.

We expect you to participate in this course, and will assess you accordingly. You are expected:

1. attend lectures and tutorials
2. engage with others in tutorial
3. complete the required reading in preparation for tutorials
4. to complete all tests and writing assignments on time

4. **Teaching Strategies**

Course material is presented in lecture. Emphasis is on acquiring skills of close reading and interpretation, as well as learning to analyse and construct philosophical arguments. Tutorial provides opportunity to practice these skills in a smaller group setting.

5. **Course Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes Assessed</th>
<th>Graduate Attributes Assessed</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis</td>
<td>700-800 words</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>2, 3, 4</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 7</td>
<td>24 March, via Turnitin — see assignment instruction sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes on Moodle (2)</td>
<td>n/a [multiple choice]</td>
<td>Each quiz worth 10%, both together 20%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12 April and 24 May — online, during lecture period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Essay**
- 1500 words
- 40%
- 2, 3, 4
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
- 3 June – see assignment instruction sheet

**Tutorial workbook**
- Write two discussion questions for tutorial per week.
- 10%
- 1, 2, 4
- 1, 4, 5, 6, 7
- Weekly, in time for tutorial.

### Formal Examination

There is no formal final examination at the end of this course.

### Grades

All results are reviewed at the end of each semester and may be adjusted to ensure equitable marking across the School.

The proportion of marks lying in each grading range is determined not by any formula or quota system, but by the way that students respond to assessment tasks and how well they meet the objectives of the course. Nevertheless, since higher grades imply performance that is well above average, the number of distinctions and high distinctions awarded in a typical course is relatively small. At the other extreme, on average 6.1% of students do not meet minimum standards and a little more (8.6%) in first year courses. For more information on the grading categories see: [https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/academiclife/assessment/GuideToUNSWGrades.html](https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/academiclife/assessment/GuideToUNSWGrades.html)

### Submission of Assessment Tasks

Assignments must be submitted electronically through Moodle ([http://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/](http://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/)). You must use your zID login to submit your assignments in Moodle.

There are two assessment tasks that are required to be submitted electronically through the link “Learning Activities” in Moodle labelled according to the appropriate assessment. Please electronically submit your assignment to the correct “Learning Activity”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment task to be submitted in Moodle</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis</td>
<td>Thursday, 24 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>Friday, 3 June</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Please note the deadline to submit an assignment electronically is **4:00 pm on the due date of the assignment.**

When you submit your assignment electronically, you agree that:

I have followed the Student Code of Conduct. I certify that I have read and understand the University requirements in respect of student academic misconduct outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and the Student Misconduct Procedure. I declare that this assessment item is my own work, except where acknowledged, and has not been submitted for academic credit previously in whole or in part.

I acknowledge that the assessor of this item may, for assessment purposes:
• provide a copy to another staff member of the University
• communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (such as Turnitin) which may retain a copy of the assessment item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking.

Your assignment will be available with feedback in soft copy for the first assignment and hard copy for the final essay usually within three weeks of the due date.

You are required to put your name (as it appears in University records) and UNSW Student ID on every page of your assignments.

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Moodle/Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalsupport@unsw.edu.au. Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year).

If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on its system status on Twitter.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Assignments which are submitted to the School Assignment Box must have a properly completed School Assessment Coversheet, with the declaration signed and dated by hand. The Coversheet can be downloaded from https://hal.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/courses/course-outlines/. It is your responsibility to make a backup copy of the assignment prior to submission and retain it.

Assignments must be submitted before 4:00pm on the due date. Assignments received after this time will be marked as having been received late.

Other assessment information:

• The Critical Analysis (due 24 March) will be submitted via Turnitin on the Moodle page for this course.

• The Final Essay (due 3 June) will be submitted via Turnitin on the Moodle page for this course. Please see assignment instruction sheet for further special submission requirements.

• Two quizzes will be made available on Moodle during lecture period on 12 April and 24 May; you are required to complete your quiz during that time.

• The tutorial workbook will consist of discussion questions for tutorial. Your tutor will keep a record of who has completed these, and will provide a final mark for this assignment based not only on the complying with this requirement, but also based on the thoughtfulness of the discussion questions asked. More instructions on this follow in your first tutorial.
Late Submission of Assignments

The Arts and Social Sciences late submissions guidelines state the following:

- An assessed task is deemed late if it is submitted after the specified time and date as set out in the course Learning Management System (LMS).
- The late penalty is the **loss of 3%** of the total possible marks for the task for each day or part thereof the work is late.
- Work submitted **14 days after** the due date will be marked and feedback provided but no mark will be recorded. If the work would have received a pass mark but for the lateness and the work is a compulsory course component, a student will be deemed to have met that requirement. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.
- Work submitted **21 days after** the due date will not be accepted for marking or feedback and will receive no mark or grade. If the assessment task is a compulsory component of the course a student will automatically fail the course.

The Late Submissions Guidelines can be found in full at: https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/Protocols-Guidelines/

The penalty may not apply where students are able to provide documentary evidence of illness or serious misadventure. Time pressure resulting from undertaking assignments for other courses does not constitute an acceptable excuse for lateness.

6. Extension of Time for Submission of Assessment Tasks

The Arts and Social Sciences Extension Guidelines apply to all assessed tasks regardless of whether or not a grade is awarded, except the following:

1. any form of test/examination/assessed activity undertaken during regular class contact hours
2. any task specifically identified by the Course Authority (the academic in charge of the course) in the Course Outline or Learning Management System (LMS), for example, Moodle, as not available for extension requests.

A student who missed an assessment activity held within class contact hours should apply for Special Consideration via myUNSW.

The Arts and Social Sciences Extension Guidelines state the following:

- A student seeking an extension should apply through the Faculty’s online extension tool available in LMS.
- A request for an extension should be submitted before the due time/date for the assessment task.
- The Course Authority should respond to the request within two working days of the request.
- The Course Authority can only approve an extension up to five days. A student requesting an extension greater than five days should complete an application for Special Consideration.
- The Course Authority advises their decision through the online extension tool.
• If a student is granted an extension, failure to comply will result in a penalty. The penalty will be invoked one minute past the approved extension time.

7. Attendance

The Arts and Social Sciences Attendance Guidelines state the following:

• A student is expected to attend all class contact hours for a face-to-face or blended course and complete all activities for a blended or fully online course.

• If a student is unable to attend all classes for a course due to timetable clashes, the student must complete the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences Permitted Timetable Clash form (see information at Item 8 below). A student unable to attend lectures in a course conducted by the School of Education can apply for “Permission to Participate in Lectures Online”.

• Where practical, a student’s attendance will be recorded. Individual course outlines/LMS will set out the conditions under which attendance will be measured.

• A student who arrives more than 15 minutes late may be penalised for non-attendance. If such a penalty is imposed, the student must be informed verbally at the end of class and advised in writing within 24 hours.

• If a student experiences illness, misadventure or other occurrence that makes absence from a class/activity unavoidable, or expects to be absent from a forthcoming class/activity, they should seek permission from the Course Authority, and where applicable, should be accompanied by an original or certified copy of a medical certificate or other form of appropriate evidence.

• Reserve members of the Australian Defence Force who require absences of more than two weeks due to full-time service may be provided an exemption. The student may also be permitted to discontinue enrolment without academic or financial penalty.

• If a Course Authority rejects a student’s request for absence from a class or activity the student must be advised in writing of the grounds for the rejection.

• A Course Authority may excuse a student from classes or activities for up to one month. However, they may assign additional and/or alternative tasks to ensure compliance.

• A Course Authority considering the granting of absence must be satisfied a student will still be able to meet the course’s learning outcomes and/or volume of learning.

• A student seeking approval to be absent for more than one month must apply in writing to the Dean and provide all original or certified supporting documentation.

• The Dean will only grant such a request after consultation with the Course Authority to ensure that measures can be organised that will allow the student to meet the course’s learning outcomes and volume of learning.

• A student who attends less than 80% of the classes/activities and has not submitted appropriate supporting documentation to the Course Authority to explain their absence may be awarded a final grade of UF (Unsatisfactory Fail).

• A student who has submitted the appropriate documentation but attends less than 66% of the classes/activities will be asked by the Course Authority to apply to discontinue the course without failure rather than be awarded a final grade of UF. The final decision as to whether a student can be withdrawn without fail is made by Student Administration and Records.
Students who falsify their attendance or falsify attendance on behalf of another student will be dealt with under the Student Misconduct Policy.

Further details available at:
https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/Protocols-Guidelines/

8. Class Clash

Students who are enrolled in an Arts and Social Sciences program (single or dual) and have an unavoidable timetable clash can apply for permissible timetable clash by completing an online application form. Students must meet the rules and conditions in order to apply for permissible clash. The rules and conditions can be accessed online in full at:
https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/media/FASSFile/Permissible_Clash_Rules.pdf

For students who are enrolled in a non-Arts and Social Sciences program, they must seek advice from their home faculty on permissible clash approval.

9. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism.

The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how to not plagiarise. Information is available on their website: https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However, more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student’s work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in an Honours thesis) or even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here:

10. Course Resources

Textbook Details

   This book is available for purchase at the UNSW bookstore; you are required to use this translation of the Republic.
2. Course reader available for purchase at UNSW bookstore.

11. Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students’ feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means including UNSW’s Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process.

12. Student Support

The Learning Centre is available for individual consultation and workshops on academic skills. Find out more by visiting the Centre’s website at: http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au

13. Grievances

All students should be treated fairly in the course of their studies at UNSW. Students who feel they have not been dealt with fairly should, in the first instance, attempt to resolve any issues with their tutor or the course convenors.

If such an approach fails to resolve the matter, the School of Humanities and Languages has an academic member of staff who acts as a Grievance Officer for the School. This staff member is identified on the notice board in the School of Humanities and Languages. Further information about UNSW grievance procedures is available at: https://student.unsw.edu.au/complaints

14. Other Information

myUNSW

myUNSW is the online access point for UNSW services and information, integrating online services for applicants, commencing and current students and UNSW staff. To visit myUNSW please visit either of the below links:
https://my.unsw.edu.au
https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/ABC.html

OHS

UNSW’s Occupational Health and Safety Policy requires each person to work safely and responsibly, in order to avoid personal injury and to protect the safety of others. For all matters relating to Occupational Health, Safety and environment, see https://www.ohs.unsw.edu.au/

Special Consideration

In cases where illness or other circumstances produce repeated or sustained absence, students should apply for Special Consideration as soon as possible.
The application must be made via Online Services in myUNSW. Log into myUNSW and go to My Student Profile tab > My Student Services channel > Online Services > Special Consideration.

Applications on the grounds of illness must be filled in by a medical practitioner. Further information is available at: https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration

**Student Equity and Disabilities Unit**

Students who have a disability that requires some adjustment in their learning and teaching environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the course convener prior to or at the commencement of the course, or with the Student Equity Officers (Disability) in the Student Equity and Disabilities Unit (9385 4734). Information for students with disabilities is available at: http://www.studentequity.unsw.edu.au/

Issues that can be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional examination and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.

### 15. Course Lecture and Reading Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK and lecturer</th>
<th>Lecture 1: lecture topic and required reading</th>
<th>Lecture 2: lecture topic and required reading</th>
<th>Assessment tasks (and other remarks)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Merritt</td>
<td>29 February WHAT IS ETHICS? [Course introduction: no reading]</td>
<td>1 March SCEPTICISM AND DISAGREEMENT IN ETHICS Plato: Republic, Book 1</td>
<td>N.B.: there are no tutorials in Week 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Merritt</td>
<td>7 March GLAUCON’S CHALLENGE Plato: Republic, Book 2</td>
<td>8 March RATIONAL AGENCY Plato: Republic, Book 4</td>
<td>Tutorials commence this week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Merritt</td>
<td>14 March FREEDOM &amp; RATIONAL AGENCY Frankfurt: “Freedom of the Will and the Concept of a Person” (In course reader.)</td>
<td>15 March MORAL EDUCATION Plato: Republic, read Book 5 from 473c through Book 7 up through 520a</td>
<td>Instructions for critical analysis (due in Week 4) distributed in tutorial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Merritt</td>
<td>21 March RESPONDING TO GLAUCON’S CHALLENGE</td>
<td>22 March MODERN SENTIMENTALIST CONSEQUENTIALISM</td>
<td>Critical analysis due Thursday, 24 March (700-800 words). Submission via</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>4 April</td>
<td>Merritt</td>
<td>RATIONALIST UTILITARIANISM Peter Singer: “Famine, Affluence, and Morality” (In course reader.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5 April</td>
<td></td>
<td>KANTIAN DEONTOLOGY Onora O’Neill: “Kantian Approaches to Some Famine Problems” (In course reader.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>11 April</td>
<td>Merritt</td>
<td>THE LIMITS OF MORAL RESPONSIBILITY Williams: “Moral Luck” (In course reader.)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>12 April</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quiz 1 on Moodle. This quiz can only be taken during lecture period via Moodle. See course convenors with any questions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>18 April</td>
<td>Lumsden</td>
<td>THE STATE OF NATURE AND NATURAL LAW Hobbes: <em>Leviathan</em> chapters 13, 14, 15 (In course reader.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>19 April</td>
<td></td>
<td>THE STATE OF NATURE AND NATURAL LAW Hobbes: <em>Leviathan</em> chapters 17, 18, 21 (In course reader.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>25 April</td>
<td>Lumsden</td>
<td>ANZAC Day — public holiday — UNSW closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>26 April</td>
<td></td>
<td>PROPERTY, FREEDOM, AND THE STATE OF NATURE Locke: “Of Property” (In course reader.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>Lumsden</td>
<td>FREEDOM AND CIVIL SOCIETY Rousseau: <em>Second Discourse on Preface</em> and</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3 May</td>
<td></td>
<td>FREEDOM AND THE STATE Rousseau: <em>The Social Contract</em>, Book 1, Chps6-8; Book 2, Chps 1-5.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Reading</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>9 May</td>
<td><strong>OBJECTIVE FREEDOM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Taylor and Hegel: “Objective Freedom”&lt;br&gt;(In course reader.)</td>
<td>10 May&lt;br&gt;<strong>ALIENATION AND CAPITALISM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Marx: “Estranged Labour”&lt;br&gt;(In course reader.)&lt;br&gt;Final essay topics distributed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>16 May</td>
<td><strong>ALIENATION AND CAPITALISM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Marx: “Estranged Labour”&lt;br&gt;(In course reader.)</td>
<td>17 May&lt;br&gt;<strong>FREEDOM, THOUGHT AND ACTION</strong>&lt;br&gt;Arendt: ‘What is Freedom’&lt;br&gt;(In course reader.)&lt;br&gt;Final Essay Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>23 May</td>
<td><strong>SOCIALITY AND FREEDOM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Arendt: “Rise of the social”&lt;br&gt;Heidegger: <em>Being and Time</em>&lt;br&gt;(In course reader.)</td>
<td>24 May&lt;br&gt;<strong>Quiz 2 on Moodle.</strong>&lt;br&gt;This quiz can only be taken during lecture period via Moodle. See course convenors with any questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>23 May</td>
<td><strong>Final essay due Friday 3 June.</strong>&lt;br&gt;See assignment instruction sheet for important submission information.</td>
<td>Final Essay Due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>