Phil.152—Recent Moral Theory: Readings and Other Assignments

All readings are found in *Ethics: Essential Readings in Moral Theory* by George Sher.
Subject to revision.
**All quizzes and discussion boards are due on the dates listed, BEFORE the start of class.**

Why be moral?

9/5—Feinberg—“Psychological Egoism” (P. 14-22)

9/7—Korsgaard—“Authority of Norms” (P. 43-54)

The meaning of moral language

9/12—G.E. Moore—“Goodness as Simple” (P. 96-102)

9/14—Ayer—“Emotive Theory” (P. 103-109)

9/19—Shafer-Landau—“Critique of Non-Cognitivism” (P. 119-124)

Morality, Objectivity and Knowledge

9/21—Rachels—“Cultural Relativism” (P. 151-158)

9/26—Mackie—“Subjectivity of Value” (P. 181-194 )

9/28—Nagel—“Objectivity of Ethics” (P. 195-208)

10/3—Sher—“But I Could be Wrong” (P. 224-233)

Consequentialism

10/5—Mill— “Utilitarianism” (P. 241-252)

10/10—Williams— “A Critique of Utilitarianism” (P. 253-261)/Rawls—“Classical Utilitarianism” (P. 262-265)

10/12—Hooker – “Rule Consequentialism” (P. 281-295)

10/17—Norcross— “Scalar Morality” (P.296-309)

Deontology

10/19—Velleman—“Reading Kant’s Groundwork” (P. 343-359)

10/20—**FIRST PAPER DUE**

10/24—Korsgaard—“The Right to Lie: Kant on Dealing with Evil” (P. 360- 376)

10/26—Greene—“The Secret Joke of Kant’s Soul” (P. 703-722)

Virtue and Character

10/31—Nussbaum—“Non-Relative Virtues” (P. 446--459)

11/2—Hurka—“Virtue and Vice” (P. 460-473)

11/7—Hursthouse—“Virtue Ethics” (P. 514-524)

11/9—Dorris—“A Situationist Theory of Character” (P. 525-541)

Value and Well-being

11/14—Nozick—“Experience Machine” (P. 550-551)/Epicurus—“The Good Life” (P. 552-557)

11/16—Parfit—“What Makes Someone’s Life Go Best?” (P. 590-597)

Responsibility and moral psychology

11/21—Frankfurt—“Freedom of the Will and the Concept of a Person” (P. 615-625 )

11/28—Strawson—“Freedom and Resentment” (P. 643-658)

11/30— Nagel—“Moral Luck” (P. 675-684)

12/5— Nichols and Knobe—“Moral Responsibility and Determinism” (P. 685-702)

12/6—**SECOND PAPER DUE**

12/7— Nagel—“Death” (P. 803-808)