

## **PHI 3170F Topics in the History of Ethics**

**Instructor:** Dr. Glen Koehn, Office A202

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**Office Hours:** Zoom sessions, by appointment and TBA

**Text:** *Readings to be provided*

**Course Description:** A review of selected long standing problems in ethical theory, centred on value, choice and character. Topics will include hedonism, issues of summing and ranking goods, akrasia, character and situation, the theory of the Mean, and cynicism and moral skepticism.

**Course Goals and Methods:** Class participants should become better able to state and discuss some influential theories about the topics studied. The methods of instruction will include readings, lectures, written work and class discussion and debate.

### **Grading:**

1. Four brief summaries, due before readings are discussed @ 5% = 20%.
2. Two papers @ 20%. (Can be based in part on summaries)
3. Midterm 20%
4. Final test 20%

**Note** that a penalty of 2% per day will be assessed for late papers.

The following schedule is provisional, and may be adjusted during the term:

Wk 1 - Wk 2 Hedonism

Wk 3 - Wk 4 Weighing, Ranking and Summing Goods

Wk 5 - Wk 6 Weakness of Will

Wk 7 - Wk 8 Character and Situation

Wk 9 - Wk 10 Theory of the Mean

Wk 11 - Wk 12 Cynicism and Moral Skepticism

Wk 13 Review