

CORE PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY I (GS/PHIL 5802)
YORK GRADUATE PROGRAM IN PHILOSOPHY
Winter 2018

Prof. M. Giudice

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This course offers an advanced survey of some central themes in contemporary practical philosophy, drawn from recent work in metaethics, ethical theory, political philosophy and the philosophy of law. While it is designed to provide background for those who will be pursuing graduate-level research in these areas, it is not an introductory course. (Those who do not have some undergraduate preparation in these areas are advised to discuss remedial work with the course director as soon as possible.)

Requirements and Evaluation

Everyone is required to complete the required readings and essays and participate in seminar discussions. Evaluation is on the following basis:

One Seminar Presentation:	20%
Weekly Comments and Class Participation:	20%
Two essays (approx. 3000 words each):	30% each

Seminar Presentation (20%)

Each member of the class will present a seminar devoted to critical analysis of some portion of our reading for each week. The purpose of the seminar assignment is designed to develop seminar members' skills in (1) verbal presentation of previously prepared material, and (2) spontaneous debate.

Comments and Participation (20%)

Before *noon of the Thursday* preceding each class, you must each email me a comment, no more than one double-spaced page in length, on *any one* claim or argument drawn from that week's required readings. Your comments will form the basis of our weekly discussions and will be assessed for your class participation grade, provided that you are present in the seminar on the relevant day. You may without penalty take two 'passes' and email me no comment for that week; you must however email me before the Thursday deadline to say that you are taking a pass.

First Short Essay (30%)

The topic must be on ethical theory or metaethics

Second Short Essay (30%)

The topic must be on political philosophy or the philosophy of law.

Late Penalties:

Weekly comments are not accepted late. Other work may be accepted late at the discretion of the course director and, without a documented medical excuse or compassionate grounds, subject to a penalty of 2.5% per day late.