

## PHIL 6400: Major Figures in Moral Philosophy

### Course Description:

This course will examine two central figures and texts from the 18<sup>th</sup> century movement in moral theory known as Sentimentalism: *A Treatise on Human Nature* by David Hume, and *Theory of Moral Sentiments* by Adam Smith. We will read significant sections from both, supplemented by contemporary philosophical analysis of Smith and Hume – as well as more recent developments in contemporary sentimentalist moral theory. Our exploration of these works will include a detailed study of the nature of and foundational role for sympathy, as each philosopher sees it, as well as discussion of the moral functions of emotions and the social dimensions of moral practice.

### Required Texts:

David Hume, *An Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals*. Ed. J.B. Schneewind, Hackett, 1983.

David Hume, *A Treatise on Human Nature*. Eds. Norton and Norton, Oxford University Press (Part of Oxford Philosophical Texts series) 2000.

Adam Smith, *Theory of Moral Sentiments*. Eds. D. D. Raphael and A. L. Macfie, Liberty Fund (Glasgow Edition) 1984.

*Other readings will be made available on the course Dropbox.*

### Course Requirements:

*This will be a condensed course, meeting twice a week in the first six weeks of term. The course requirements reflect this format, as well as the significant reading requirements.*

Response Papers x6:	60%
Seminar Presentation:	25%
Seminar Participation:	15%