PHIL2630: ETHICAL ISSUES & LIFE CHOICES
Anna-Bella Sicilia

Week 1. (How) should you theorize about your life?
January 6. Mary Midgley, "Philosophical Plumbing" (1992) **January 8.** bell hooks, "Theory as Liberatory Practice" (1991)
Week 2. (How) should you theorize about your life?
January 11. hooks, cont. **January 13.** Paulo Freire, Chapter 2 of *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* (1970) **January 15.** Olivia Bailey, "But How Do I Participate?"
Week 3. What is a(n) (ethically) good life?
January 18. [No class, MLK Jr. Day] **January 20.** Peter Singer, "Famine Affluence, and Morality" (1972) **January 22.** How to Read Philosophy
Week 4. What is a(n) (ethically) good life?
January 25. Julia Annas, "Being Virtuous and Doing the Right Thing" (2004) **January 27.** Susan Wolf, "Moral Saints" (1982) **January 29.** John Ramsey, "Confucian Role Ethics" (2016)
Week 5. What is the ethical significance of your culture?
February 1. Review for Exam #1 **February 3.** Exam #1 **February 5.** G.A. Cohen, "Rescuing Conservatism" excerpts (2012)
Week 6. What is the ethical significance of your culture?
February 8. Donald Fixico, "Oral Tradition and Traditional Knowledge" from *The American Indian Mind in a Linear World* (2003) **February 10.** C. Thi Nguyen and Matthew Strohl, "Cultural Appropriation and the Intimacy of Groups" (2019) **February 12.** Nguyen and Strohl, cont.
Week 7. What should you eat (and how)?
February 15. Robin Wall Kimmerer, "The Gift of Strawberries" from *Braiding Sweetgrass* (2013) **February 17.** Peter Singer, *Animal Liberation* excerpts (1975) **February 19.** John R. Miller, "*Wahkootowin* Vegetarianism: When is it Okay to Eat Your Kin?" (2025)

Week 8. What do you owe you friends?

February 22. Miller, cont.
February 24. Michael Stocker, "The Schizophrenia of Modern Ethical Theories" (1976)
February 26. Stocker, cont.

Week 9. What do you owe your friends?

March 1. Dean Cocking and Jeanette Kennett, "Friendship and Moral Danger" excerpts (2000)
March 3. Review for Exam #2
March 5. Exam #2

Week 10. Should you get married?

March 8. Elizabeth Brake, "The Marriage Promise" from *Minimizing Marriage* (2012)
March 10. Brake, cont.
March 12. Pauline Kleingeld and Joel Anderson, "Justice as a Family Value" (2014)

Spring Break March 15-19

Week 11. Should you have kids?

March 22. David Benatar, "Kids? Just Say No." (2017)
March 24. Rivka Weinberg, "The Endless Umbilical Cord: Parental Obligation to Grown Children" (2018)
March 26. Weinberg, cont.

Week 12. How should you care for others?

March 29. Nel Noddings, "The One-Caring" from *Caring* (1984)
March 31. Margaret Little, "Seeing and Caring: The Role of Affect in Feminist Moral Epistemology" (1995)
April 2. Little, cont.

Week 13. (How) should you forgive those who wrong you?

April 5. Per-Erik Milam, "Reasons to Forgive" (2019)
April 7. Alice Maclachlan, "Practicing Imperfect Forgiveness" (2009), Martin Luther King, Jr, "Loving Your Enemies" (1957)
April 9. Maclachlan, cont.

Week 14. How should you take stock of your life?

April 12. Seneca, "On the Shortness of Life" (49AD)
April 14. Kieran Setiya, "Is That All There Is?" from *Midlife: A Philosophical Guide* (2017)
April 16. Thomas Nagel, "Death" (1979)

Week 15. Does what happens after you die matter?

April 19. Sam Scheffler, *Death and the Afterlife* excerpts (2013)
April 21. Scheffler, cont.
April 23. Review for final exam