SYLLABUS

PHI 189D (Topics in Ethics): Feminist Analytic Philosophy
Lecture: TR 1:40 – 3:00, Wellman 233

Professor Marina Oshana: moshana@ucdavis.edu
Office: 2289 Social Science and Humanities Bldg.
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 – 12:00 noon, and by appointment.
SmartSite: https://smartsite.ucdavis.edu/xsl-portal/site/feministanalyticethics

Course description
Analytic feminist philosophy uses the philosopher’s tool-kit of truth, logical consistency, objectivity, and rationality in tackling problems in a range of philosophical areas (ethics, political philosophy, epistemology, metaphysics, and philosophy of science) while addressing the fact that the tool-kit has historically been warped by a masculine point of view.

Texts: Copies of readings will also be posted on SmartSite.
Selections from Out from the Shadows: Analytical Feminist Contributions to Traditional Philosophy, eds. Sharon L. Crasnow and Anita M. Superson (Oxford University Press, USA, 2012). Hereafter abbreviated as OFS.

Selections from Setting the Moral Compass: Essays by Women Philosopher, ed. Cheshire Calhoun (Oxford University Press, USA, 2003). Hereafter abbreviated as SMC.


Course requirements:
Two papers (3 – 5 pages); essay final examination, discussion on SmartSite Forum. College level compositional skills are assumed. Because I cannot predict the precise amount of time we will spend on a given reading assignment, please make it your responsibility to be informed and up-to-date regarding the assignments and class discussion. The best way to do this is by attending class.

Grade distribution:
Papers: 25% of grade each. Final exam: 30% of grade. Weekly discussions on SmartSite Forum: 20%.

Class conduct: I do not appreciate disruptions to the class. Please turn off cell phones. Do not use social media in class. Try not to arrive late or leave early. (Note: I consider sleeping in class a disruption.)

Grading policy:
All assignments must be completed on time; there is no provision for make-up assignments. There is no provision for extra credit. No papers will be accepted after the due date. Rescheduling of exams and assignments will be permitted only for reasons that I determine are
compelling. **Examples:** A documented death in the family or a serious illness constitutes a compelling reason. Traveling with a sports team, or having a conflict in your schedule, or missing the bus is not a compelling reason.

Assignments may be submitted early. Failure to turn in a paper in class on its due date will result in a grade of “F” for that assignment. Do not use *Wikipedia* as a research source.

**Plagiarism:**
Plagiarism on any paper will result in an automatic grade of “F” for the course.

**Schedule** is tentative and subject to change. Please keep apprised of the schedule by coming to class. If you miss a class, or simply find the lecture, discussion, or reading unclear *please come see me.* *You have both a right and a responsibility to understand what is going on!*

Week 1: What is Analytic Feminist Philosophy?
4/2: Introduction
4/4: No class; Professor out of town.

**** Discussion on SmartSite Forum is still required.

Week 2
4/9: Discussion of Cudd and Superson articles.
4/11: Moral Epistemology
   Heidi Grasswick, “Knowing Moral Agents,” in *OFS*.

Week 3: Moral Epistemology, continued. TOPIC WILL BE LOCKED ON 4/17 AT 7:00 PM
4/18: Discussion of Grasswick and Jones articles. *1st paper due on Friday, 4/19 on SmartSite.*

Week 4: Agency and Responsibility TOPIC WILL BE LOCKED ON 4/26 AT 7:00 PM

Week 5: Our Moral Framework I. TOPIC WILL BE LOCKED ON 5/3 AT 7:00 PM
4/30: Discussion of feminist accounts of agency.
5/2: Cheshire Calhoun, “Common Decency,” in *SMC*.

Week 6: Our Moral Framework, continued. TOPIC WILL BE LOCKED ON 5/10 AT 7:00 PM
5/7: Miranda Fricker, “Silence and Institutional Prejudice,” in *OFS*.
5/9: No class; I have a doctor’s appointment.

**** Discussion on SmartSite Forum is still required.
Week 7: Our Moral Framework, continued. TOPIC WILL BE LOCKED ON 5/17 AT 7:00 PM
5/16: Discussion of feminist accounts of our moral framework. 2nd paper due Monday, 5/20, on SmartSite

Week 8: Social and Political Concerns. TOPIC WILL BE LOCKED ON 5/24 AT 7:00 PM
5/23: Marilyn Friedman, “Diversity, Trust, and Moral Understanding,” in SMC.

Week 9: Social and Political Concerns, continued. TOPIC WILL BE LOCKED ON 5/31 AT 7:00 PM
5/30: Alison Jagger, “Globalizing Feminist Ethics,” in SMC.

Week 10: Social and Political Concerns, continued. TOPIC WILL BE LOCKED ON 6/7 AT 7:00 PM
6/4: Discussion of feminist accounts of socio-political issues.
6/6: Ann Cudd, “Resistance is (not) Futile,” in OFS.

Last Forum (#10): Questions and Study Group
This is your opportunity to have a study group for the final exam! TOPIC WILL BE LOCKED ON 6/10 AT 7:00 PM

Final Exam: Tuesday, June 11, 8:00 – 10:00 am