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Progress Report on APA Grant: “Philosophy YouTube Pilot Series”

Thus far, I have sketched outlines for sixteen possible videos:

1. Why study philosophy
2. Is philosophy practical?
3. the fact/opinion distinction
4. the Euthyphro question
5. the ontological argument
6. the prisoner’s dilemma and the tragedy of the commons
7. consequentialism and deontology
8. act utilitarianism and rule utilitarianism
9. the problem of evil
10. begging the question
11. moral relativism
12. Is ethics possible without God?
13. Abortion and the personhood debate
14. Psychological egoism and ethical egoism
15. Why we use thought experiments (the trolley problem)
16. Arguments from Analogy

As I continue to work on the scripts for these videos, as well as to film rough cuts of them, I expect that the final count will be 10-12, as originally planned. Some ideas will work better in execution than others.

I have also met multiple times with my video director, Chase Whiteside, and brainstormed various possible formats for these videos, each of which should be no more than three minutes long. We have not yet made final decisions about the format.

I had hoped that my progress would be further along by this point, but it has been hampered by a book project, the final manuscript for which will be submitted next week. The current plan is to film the videos in late fall 2016. Note: I have not yet accessed any of the funds from the APA, and will not do so until the scripts are complete and we are ready to begin filming.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can answer further questions.

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