

COURSE DETAIL

ETHICAL DILEMMAS: EXPERIMENTAL MORAL PHILOSOPHY, LITERATURE, AND CINEMA

Country

France

Host Institution

Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

Program(s)

Sciences Po Paris

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Philosophy

UCEAP Course Number

122

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

ETHICAL DILEMMAS: EXPERIMENTAL MORAL PHILOSOPHY, LITERATURE, AND CINEMA

UCEAP Transcript Title

ETHICAL DILEMMAS

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This course explores ethical dilemmas from a transversal perspective, relying both on resources from experimental philosophy, social psychology, moral psychology, but also adding to the mix fiction in its various forms. Literature has, in fact, a long tradition of invention, formulation and putting into place conflicts of values (from classic tragedy to contemporary novels), and cinema has taken up the mantle with its own methods of expression and representation, continued by television series or video games. Writing techniques, narrative form, effects, emotions, all of this plays a role in the creation and perception of a moral problem: fictional examples are a good element to study to ask ourselves what is a dilemma? The course rounds this out by looking at poetry and aesthetics, reflecting on the moral manipulation done by philosophical thought experiments. Are there dilemmas emblematic of a historical moment, specific to a given culture? Does literature preserve traces of dilemmas grown cold? What sort of new ethical questions do science and technology bring forth, such as what we see in contemporary fiction? Each session reflects on various problems (rationing of rare resources, hostage situations, love and loyalty, sense of honor). The examples are taken from history or current media, from different philosophical traditions, legal, ethical, classical literature, biblical, contemporary literature, cinema, but also television series, science fiction, even video games (according to the group's interest).

Language(s) of Instruction

French

Host Institution Course Number

CHUM 25F12

Host Institution Course Title

DILEMMES ÉTHIQUES : PHILOSOPHIE MORALE EXPÉRIMENTALE,
LITTÉRATURE ET CINÉMA

Host Institution Campus

French Seminar

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Humanities

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