

TA: Lauren Sidlar

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**Instructor Office Hours:** Wednesdays 2:45 – 4:00 PM, and by appointment

**Office location:** Stevenson Hall 2157 (knock on the door!)

**TA Office Hours and Location:** TBD

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**Course description:**

Everyone wants to live a good life. But not everyone agrees about what a good life is. Is a good life one in which we behave morally? What does moral or virtuous behavior look like? In this course, we'll be studying ethical theories, or systematic answers to these

problems of weakness of will and implicit bias.

**Course materials:**

All readings will be available for free online with links in this syllabus and on OWL, or as PDFs or Word documents posted on the course OWL site. We will also be listening to podcasts, which are all available for free online, to listen to on any computer or smartphone; links to the podcasts will be on the OWL site. \*\*Let me know ASAP if you require accommodation for this (e.g., if you are deaf or hard of hearing.)\*\*

Podcast abbreviations: Philosophy Bites podcast (PB); RadioLab podcast (RL)

**Assignments**

| <b><u>Assignment</u></b>  | <b><u>Percentage of final grade</u></b> |
|---|---|
| Paper 1 (1250 – 1500 words)<br><b>Tentative deadline: February 12</b> | 30%                                     |
| Paper 2 (1250 – 1500 words)<br><b>Tentative deadline: April 1</b>     | 30%                                     |
| Homework assignments (weekly)   | 40%                                     |





**Email policy:**



**Week 7: Virtue ethics:**

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## Week 11: Challenges to acting morally: weakness of will

- " Monday 3/21: The source of akrasia
  - o **READ:** "On the Social and Political Sources of Akrasia" – Amélie Rorty
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