

ETHICAL RATIONALISM VS ETHICAL SENTIMENTALISM

Thomas Schmidt and Michael Smith

OVERVIEW

Ethical Rationalism vs Ethical Sentimentalism is a two-part graduate course, taught by Thomas Schmidt (Humboldt University, Berlin) and Michael Smith (Princeton University). One part will be on ethical rationalism, and it will take place in Berlin in mid-June 2016. The second part will be on ethical sentimentalism, and it will take place in Princeton at the end of August and beginning of September 2016.

There is funding for travel, accommodation, and some meal costs for six students from Princeton to join Michael Smith in Berlin for the first part of the course, and six students from Berlin to join Thomas Schmidt in Princeton for the second part of the course. The twelve students who receive funding must attend *both* parts of the course. Over and above these twelve students, local students and faculty are welcome to attend each part of the course, however only the twelve students will receive credit. The reading for the course will be made available online in advance. The expectation is that all students and faculty attending the course will have read all of the material prior to attending.

At the end of each part of the course, there will be one half of the annual Humboldt-Princeton Graduate Conference in Philosophy. Each half will take place in one day. The papers to be presented there do not need to address topics related to the graduate course, though of course they may do so. Unlike in previous years, the Graduate Conference will not be organized by graduate students, but will instead be organized by Thomas Schmidt and Michael Smith.

STRUCTURE

Both courses will run for six days each, with a three-hour seminar on each day, followed by the graduate conference.

| <i>Berlin</i> | | <i>Princeton</i> | |
|---------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Tuesday | arrival | Sunday | arrival |
| Wednesday | seminar | Monday | seminar |
| Thursday | seminar | Tuesday | seminar |
| Friday | seminar | Wednesday | seminar |
| Saturday | free | Thursday | free |
| Sunday | free | Friday | free |
| Monday | seminar | Saturday | seminar |
| Tuesday | seminar | Sunday | seminar |
| Wednesday | seminar | Monday | seminar |
| Thursday | free | Tuesday | free |
| Friday | graduate conference | Wednesday | graduate conference |
| Saturday | departure | Thursday | departure |

The cost of accommodation for eleven nights will be covered. Individual students may choose to arrive earlier and stay longer (see *ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY* below).

APPLICATIONS

Students wishing to attend the course will need to apply by submitting

- (i) a statement of motivation (one page single spaced maximum) giving the reasons why they would profit from attending the course, and
- (ii) a proposal for a paper (half a page single spaced maximum) that they could, if selected, present at the graduate conference.

These materials must be submitted to both Thomas Schmidt <T.Schmidt@philosophie.hu-berlin.de> and Michael Smith <msmith@exchange.Princeton.EDU> .

Those eligible to apply are final year BA students, M.A. students, and Ph.D. students.

Thomas Schmidt and Michael Smith will jointly evaluate all applications.

Final decisions will be made by the Chair of the Institute for Philosophy at the Humboldt, and the Director of Graduate Studies in Philosophy at Princeton.

The deadline for applications is Friday 22 January 2016.

SYLLABUS

Humboldt Seminar 1: Ethical Rationalism

Wednesday 15 June 2016

Thomas M. Scanlon "Reasons Fundamentalism" and "Metaphysical Objections" in *Being Realistic About Reasons* 2014

Humboldt Seminar 2: Ethical Rationalism

Thursday 16 June 2016

Tristram McPherson "Against quietist normative realism" in *Philosophical Studies* 2011

Humboldt Seminar 3: Ethical Rationalism

Friday 17 June 2016

Christine Korsgaard "The Activity of Reason" in *Reasons and Recognition*, Wallace et al (eds) OUP 2011

Humboldt Seminar 4: Ethical Rationalism

Monday 20 June 2016

Niko Kolodny "Aims as Reasons" in *Reasons and Recognition*, Wallace et al (eds) OUP 2011

Humboldt Seminar 5: Ethical Rationalism

Tuesday 21 June 2016

Michael Smith "Scanlon on Desire and the Explanation of Action" in *Reasons and Recognition*, Wallace et al (eds) OUP 2011

Humboldt Seminar 6: Ethical Rationalism

Wednesday 22 June 2016

Loose ends

Princeton Seminar 7: Ethical Sentimentalism

Monday 29 August 2016

Justin D'Arms "Two Arguments for Sentimentalism" in *Philosophical Issues* 2005

Princeton Seminar 8: Ethical Sentimentalism

Tuesday 30 August 2016

Simon Blackburn "Must We Weep for Sentimentalism?" in *Contemporary Debates in Metaethics*, James Dreier (ed) 2006

Princeton Seminar 9: Ethical Sentimentalism

Wednesday 31 August 2016

Peter Railton "Just How Do the Passions Rule?" in *Passions and Projections*, Robert Johnson and Michael Smith (eds) Oxford

Princeton Seminar 10: Ethical Sentimentalism

Saturday 3 September 2016

Nomy Arpaly and Timothy Schroeder "Deliberation and Acting for Reasons" in *Philosophical Review* 2012

Princeton Seminar 11: Ethical Rationalism

Sunday 4 September 2016

Karen Jones "Emotional Rationality as Practical Rationality" in *Setting the Moral Compass: Essays by Women*. Cheshire Calhoun (ed) Oxford University Press 2004

Princeton Seminar 12: Ethical Rationalism

Monday 5 September 2016

Loose ends

HUMBOLDT-PRINCETON GRADUATE CONFERENCE IN PHILOSOPHY

Half of the annual Humboldt-Princeton Graduate Conference in Philosophy will take place in Berlin on Friday 24 June 2016, and the other half will take place in Princeton on Wednesday 7 September 2016. Papers will be chosen on the basis of the proposals made in the applications.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The Inaugural Humboldt Normativity Conference will be held in Berlin on 27-29 June 2016, and the Second Annual CHillMeta Conference will be held in Chapel Hill on 9-11 September 2016. There is therefore an opportunity for those who wish to attend these conferences to stay on and do so, at their own expense, immediately after each half of the Humboldt-Princeton Graduate Conference.