

RESPECT AND DISRESPECT

Respect and disrespect are core topics in ethics, pervasive in our thinking about personal relationships, institutions, and the foundations of moral philosophy. This seminar will cover influential recent work on the nature and norms of respect and disrespect, including work on appraisal and recognition, inequality, racism and other forms of discrimination, intrusiveness, paternalism, nudges, manners, and self-respect. Students will receive training in philosophical research methods and write a conference-length research paper with the help of instructor and peer feedback and a class mini-conference.

Instructor: Eugene Chislenko, chislenko@temple.edu

Office hours: Mazur Hall 750, Monday 1:30-3:30pm or by appointment

- Course requirements:** (1) Weekly reading and active class participation (25%)
 (2) Four reading outlines, presented in class (25%)
 (3) A 2-page final paper proposal (required but not graded)
 (4) A research paper with body text of at most 3000 words (50%)

All readings will be posted on Canvas.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND READINGS

1. W 8/28: **Introduction**

Reading: Immanuel Kant, selections from *The Metaphysics of Morals*

2. W 9/4: **The Nature of Respect and Disrespect**

Reading: Stephen Darwall, “Two Kinds of Respect”; Christine Bratu, “Toward an Expressive Account of Disrespect”; Theodore Benditt, “Why Respect Matters”

3. W 9/11: **Inequality and Discrimination, I**

Reading: Glasgow, “Racism as Disrespect”; Benjamin Eidelson, *Discrimination and Disrespect*, Ch.3

4. W 9/18: **Inequality and Discrimination, II**

Reading: Benjamin Eidelson, *Discrimination and Disrespect*, Ch.4; Erin Beeghly, “Discrimination and Disrespect”; Frej Klem Thomsen, “No Disrespect—but that Account does not Explain what is Morally Bad about Discrimination”

5. W 9/25: **Intrusiveness, I: Meddling and Paternalism**

Reading: Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, “Paternalism”; Daniel Groll, “Paternalism, Respect, and the Will”; Adam Cureton, “The Limiting Role of Respect”

6. W 10/2: **Intrusiveness, II: Nudges**

Reading: Andreas T. Schmidt and Bart Engelen, “The Ethics of Nudging: An Overview”; Gabriel de Marco and Thomas Douglas, “Nudge Transparency is not Required for Nudge Resistibility”

7. W 10/9: **Self-Respect**

Reading: Thomas Hill, “Servility and Self-Respect”; Robin Dillon, “Toward a Feminist Conception of Self-Respect”; Robin Dillon, “How to Lose your Self-Respect”

8. W 10/16: **Blaming and Forgiving**

Reading: Eugene Chislenko, “Respect and the Standing to Blame”; Robin Dillon, “Self-Forgiveness and Self-Respect”

Students’ Choice readings due by Thursday, 10/17 at 11:59pm.

9. W 10/23: **Students’ Choice I**

Reading: TBA

10. W 10/30: **Students’ Choice II**

Reading: TBA

Paper proposals due Friday, November 1 by 11:59pm.

11. W 11/6: **Paper Proposals**

Reading: Paper proposals

Final paper due Thursday, November 8 by 11:59pm.

12. W 11/13: **Class Mini-Conference I**

Reading: Final paper drafts

13. W 11/20: **Class Mini-Conference II**

Reading: Final paper drafts

No class 11/27. Happy fall break!

14. W 12/4: **Discussion**

Final paper rewrite due Wednesday, December 11 by 11:59pm.

COURSE POLICIES

Office Hours: Come to office hours often! The material is hard and you need to talk through it. Come with specific questions if you can, but coming to talk in a more general way is fine too. It's also fine to come as a small group. If you want to meet but have a schedule conflict, let me know.

Reading outlines: In weeks 3-10, you will submit four reading outlines, each to be presented in class. These are due by **Monday at noon** of the weeks you are presenting, by email to chislenko@temple.edu. Each of these is a handout that must fit on one sheet of paper (double-sided), including a clear, compact summary of one article or book chapter that covers its main line of argument in detail and using key quotes as needed, and ending with what you see as the most important objections and/or questions for discussion. Three of your outlines will cover an assigned reading, and the fourth will cover a reading of your choice for the Students' Choice weeks. Your class presentation should take 10-15 minutes, and will begin our discussion of the reading. You do not need to print copies of the outlines; they will be printed for you.

Plagiarism: *All* written work for the course must be your own. Be sure to cite any works you use, including web sites, books, and articles. Presenting *anyone* else's work as your own is considered plagiarism. Please follow this link to see Temple University's Policy on Student Conduct Code, which includes academic honesty: policies.temple.edu/PDF/398.pdf. The Philosophy Department Plagiarism Policy mandates an "F" grade, and reporting to the Chair and the CLA Undergraduate Affairs Office, for plagiarized work.

Disabilities: Any student who has a need for accommodations based on the impact of a documented disability or medical condition should contact Disability Resources and Services (DRS) located in the Howard Gittis Student Center South, 4th Floor at drs@temple.edu or 215-204-1280 to request accommodations and learn more about the resources available to you. If you have a DRS accommodation letter to share with me, or you would like to discuss your accommodations, please contact me as soon as practical. I will work with you and with DRS to coordinate reasonable accommodations for all students with documented disabilities. All discussions related to your accommodations will be confidential.

Statement on Academic Freedom: Freedom to teach and freedom to learn are inseparable facets of academic freedom. The University has a policy on Student and Faculty Academic Rights and Responsibilities (Policy #03.70.02) which can be accessed at policies.temple.edu.

FINAL PAPER ASSIGNMENT

Write a conference paper on a topic of your own choosing, from within the topics covered in this seminar. Defend your view through discussion of relevant parts of the readings for the course, as well as your own thoughts and examples. Explain all key terms so that someone who has not taken the seminar can understand your paper. Consider explicitly the best reasons why someone might disagree with you, and how you might convince that person. Your paper should show an understanding of course readings and class discussion, and of which parts of the readings are relevant for your topic. But the assignment is to work out and defend your own view. Summary of what we have covered so far should take up less than half your paper. When choosing a topic, think about what you're most interested in, and also what you have something to say about that goes beyond what we have covered in class.

Length and scope: Your paper has a strict maximum length of 3000 words, not including notes and bibliography (about 10-12 pages), double spaced, with 12-point font and at least 1-inch margins. This is the most typical length for a conference paper, which you can revise and submit directly to conferences. Your paper should cite a range of readings—either from several weeks of the seminar, or from one or two weeks plus some outside research—but does not need to discuss more than 1-3 readings in depth. Feel free to consult throughout the semester about your paper.

Logistics: Your paper is due **Thursday, November 8 by 11:59pm**. Please email your paper as a Word file or PDF (I slightly prefer Word, but either is fine) to chislenko@temple.edu, with your name and a title at the top of the first page. *Late papers* will be marked down one third of a grade (from A to A-, A- to B+, etc.) for each day or fraction of a day they are late, including Saturday and Sunday. We will read everyone's paper drafts and discuss them in class. You will then have a chance to rewrite your paper, with the rewrite due **Wednesday, December 11 by 11:59pm**. Only the revised paper will be graded, but lateness penalties apply to both drafts. To be accepted, the original submission must be a full-length paper (at least 2500 words, not including notes or references) with a systematic defense of your view on a topic in the course.

PROPOSAL: Write a final paper proposal of at most two pages (double-spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins). Your proposal should include: (1) a title; (2) a direct statement of the view you will defend in the paper; (3) a brief explanation of the view, including what you mean by any key terms; (4) a brief list of key texts you will focus on, with author and title for each text; and (5) a summary of the planned line of thought of the paper, including your central argument(s) for holding your view to begin with, the main objections or problems you anticipate, and how you plan to address them. Of these, (5) should take up more than half of your proposal, and you must explain what view you will defend and how, not only what you will explore or investigate. Your proposal is due **Friday, November 1 by 11:59pm**. A complete proposal, including all five elements, is required but will not be graded. Late or incomplete proposals will lead your final paper rewrite to be marked down 1/3 of a grade (from A to A-, etc.) for each day the completed proposal is late.