

## **Social and Moral Philosophy in Education**

Education 833

Section: G001

Term: 2011 Summer

Instructor: Ann Chinnery  
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Discussion Topics: As Meno asks in Platos Ion and Meno:

I have a question for you, Socrates. Can goodness be taught? Or do we acquire it through practice? Or if humans become good neither by teaching nor by practice, then perhaps it comes to us by nature or in some other way.

In this course we will investigate the question of whether goodness can be taught, along with other related themes in moral and social philosophy, including the qualities and capacities necessary for responsible citizenship; the justice-care debate in moral and political education; postmodernist ethical theory; and whether morality is a uniquely human capacity (or whether robots can be moral agents too).

Grading: student-directed inquiry assignments (x 2) 30%  
seminar participation 20%  
final paper (essay length book review) 50%

Required Texts: Callan, E. (1997). Creating citizens: Political education and liberal democracy. Oxford: Clarendon Press. ISBN: 0198292589

Levinas, E. (1985). Ethics and infinity. Pittsburgh: Duquesne University Press. ISBN: 0820701785

Nussbaum, M. (1995). Poetic justice: The literary imagination and public life. Boston: Beacon Press. ISBN: 0807041092

Plus one of:

Gilligan, C. (1982). In a different voice: Psychological theory and womens development. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. ISBN: 0674445449 or

Noddings, N. (1984). Caring: A feminine approach to ethics and moral education. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN: 0520238648

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite:

Notes: Students in all Faculty of Education courses are responsible for knowing policies pertaining to academic integrity available on the website:

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