Mental Disorder, Decisional Capacity, and Moral Agency
PHIL 173: Topics in Bioethics
Fall Term 2018

Instructor
Dr. Monique Wonderly
Office: HSS 8047
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 11am-1pm (or by appointment)
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Brief Course Description
This course will examine issues at the intersection of mental health care ethics and moral agency. In particular, we will consider whether and how impaired mental capacities might bear on questions concerning the moral agency and the ethical treatment of members of certain clinical populations, including psychopaths and individuals suffering from addiction. In exploring these issues, we will engage with bioethical approaches to understanding the nature and treatment of the aforementioned disorders and recent literature on agency and moral responsibility.

General Information
Students are expected to come to class having done the readings. All readings will be available to you online on the TritonEd course site. Note that readings marked “[REC]” are recommended and entirely optional. Regular attendance and preparedness for class are important. Attendance can impact your grade. You may miss one class with no penalty. Each unexcused absence after the first will result in your attendance grade being lowered by 10 points. The remaining portion of your grade will be determined by papers, as indicated below. Students are required both to hand in hard copies of their papers in class and to submit them electronically (papers will be checked for plagiarism). You may use laptops/tablets for note-taking only. No other electronic devices, including cell phones, may be used in class except by permission of the instructor.

Course Grade
The following factors will determine final grades:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper 1</td>
<td>~2-3 pages (due 10/30)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 2</td>
<td>~4-5 pages (due 11/20)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>~8-10 pages (due 12/13)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
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<td>10%</td>
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Grading Scale:

- 93-100 = A
- 86-88 = B+
- 79-82 = B
- 73-75 = C
- 66-68 = D+
- 59-62 = D
- Below 59 = F
Schedule of Readings
(Tentative list – readings may be removed or added)

9/27: Welcome and Introduction (No Required Reading)

Unit 1. Decisional Capacity and Morally Responsible Agency


Unit 2. Psychopathy and Autism: Moral Agency and Treatment Ethics


**Paper 1 Due**


**Class Selected Topic: Love and Grief**


**Unit 3. Addiction: Moral Agency and Treatment Ethics**


**Paper 2 Due**


12/6: Review

*Dec 13: Final Paper Due*

**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to conduct themselves with academic integrity. For more information, go to: [https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/](https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/)

**Student Accommodations**

Students requesting accommodations for this course due to a disability must provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) which is located in University Center 202 behind Center Hall. Students are required to present their AFA letters to Faculty (please make arrangements to contact me privately) and to the OSD Liaison in the department in advance so that accommodations may be arranged.

858.534.4382 (phone) | osd@ucsd.edu (email) | [http://disabilities.ucsd.edu](http://disabilities.ucsd.edu) (website)