Philosophy of Attachment  
PHIL 285: Seminar on Special Topics  
Fall Term 2018

Professor Info: 
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Office Hours: Thursdays, 11am-noon (and by appointment)

Course Description  
In this seminar, we will explore various ways in which we might be emotionally connected to others and how those relations bear on philosophical treatments of agency and emotion. In particular, we will focus on the roles that attachment plays in structuring human agency, constituting and informing certain emotions and emotional processes, and helping us to lead flourishing lives. In examining these issues, we will engage with philosophical literature (and some psychological research) on attachment and related forms of emotional connectedness, including some relevant work on caring, love, and grief.

General Information  
Readings will be available to you on TritonEd. Note that readings labeled “Further Reading” are entirely optional. Your course grade will be determined by participation (20%) and a final ~15 page paper due 12/13 (80%). Your participation score will depend upon attendance, participation in class discussion, and weekly short response papers. Every week, except for the first class, you should prepare a short response paper (not more than 1 pg.) addressing something that you found interesting, objectionable, confusing, etc. about the readings. These should be sent to me by Tuesday night, so that I can incorporate them into the seminar’s opening discussion points. They will not be graded, but failure to turn them in will lower your participation score. You may miss one class and 2 response papers with no penalty.

Schedule of Readings  
(Tentative list – readings may be removed or added)

Unit 1: Attachment, Caring, and Valuing  
10/3:  


Further Reading  

10/10:

*Further Reading*

10/17:

*Further Reading*

**Unit 2: Attachment, Love, and Grief**

10/24:

*Further Reading*

10/31:


**Further Reading**


11/7:


**Further Reading**


11/14:


**Further Reading**


**Unit 3: Attachment, Agency, and Morality**

11/21:


Further Reading


11/28:


Further Reading


12/5:


Further Reading


Academic Integrity

Students are expected to conduct themselves with academic integrity. For more information, go to: 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 (website)