Course Description:
This course will examine a number of fundamental issues in moral psychology, a field that is at
the intersection of traditional philosophical concerns in ethics and contemporary work in
psychology and cognitive science. Topics to be addressed in this course include the emotions,
moral reasoning, and the freedom of human action. This course will place an emphasis on
developing the kind of clear, forceful writing expected in an advanced philosophy course.

Required Texts:
Nadelhoffer et al, Moral Psychology: historical and contemporary readings (MP)

Course Mechanics:
TED: There is a TED site for the course. All handouts, slides, homework assignments, and
supplementary readings will be made available through this site. It is your responsibility to check
this site regularly.

Lectures and discussion: I often lecture with slides. The slides will be used to focus discussion
and organize complex material; they are not a substitute for the readings. The slides will be
made available on TED a few days after lecture. Students are expected to take careful notes and
will be help responsible for the material discussed in class not found on the slides or in the
readings. There is no separate time devoted to discussion; please feel free to interrupt at any time
with comments or questions.

Reading Assignments: Students are expected to read each selection prior to class (preferably
more than once). You should take notes while reading, keeping track of questions or issues that
arise. You should bring both the book and the notes/questions to class. After the first week, a
homework assignment will be posted to TED and must be turned in at the beginning of
Thursday’s class. We will discuss the homework on the following Tuesday. Assignments will be marked in plain English and returned.

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay 1 (6 pgs)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay 2 (6 pgs)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Policies:**

Students can miss one homework assignment without loss of credit. To avoid penalties for late assignments, students must provide official documentation explaining why the assignment could not be handed in on time. Late homework without documentation will not be accepted. Late papers without documentation will receive a late penalty of 1/3 letter grade for each day a paper is late, including weekend days (no exceptions).

**Reading Schedule (subject to change):**

**Week 1: Introduction and background**

T: Course mechanics, outline, introduction to moral psychology, names
Th: MP, general introduction; introduction to Part I; Chapter 2 (Hutcheson)

**Week 2: Moral Reasoning**

T: MP, Ch. 3, 4
Th: MP, Ch. 5, 6

**Week 3: Moral Reasoning, Part II**

T: MP, Ch. 7, 8
Th: MP, Ch. 9
**Week 4: Emotions**
T: Readings TBA, available on TED
Th: Readings TBA, available on TED

**Week 5: Altruism**
T: MP, introduction to Part II; Ch. 10
*First Essay due in Class February 5th*
Th: MP, Ch. 11, 12, 13

**Week 6: Altruism, Part II**
T: MP, Ch. 14, 15
Th: MP, Ch. 17, 17

**Week 7: Virtue**
T: MP, Introduction to Part III; Ch. 19
Th: MP, Ch. 22, 24

**Week 8: Agency**
T: MP, Introduction to Part IV; Ch. 25, 26
Th: MP, Ch. 28, 29

**Week 9: Agency & Intuition**
T: MP, Ch. 30, 31, 32
*Second Essay Due in Class March 5th*
Th: MP, Introduction to Part V; Ch. 33, 34

**Week 10: Moral Intuition**
T: MP, Ch. 35, 37
Th: MP, Ch. 38, 39