DUE DATES

- An OUTLINE of your essay is due Friday, Nov 2 by the beginning of class
  - Exchange outlines with a classmate via email or in person.
  - Answer the questions on the “Outline Feedback” worksheet posted on Moodle about your classmate’s outline.
  - Turn in outline and FEEDBACK to me (and your classmate) via email or in class on Monday, November 5.
- A hard copy of your essay DRAFT is due in class on Monday, November 12
- Your FINAL ESSAY is due via Moodle on Tuesday, November 20 by midnight.

FORMAT OF FINAL ESSAY

- 3–4 pages, double-spaced, 12-pt Times, with 1-inch margins and page numbers.
- Title your essay. Center your title at the top of your document.
- DO NOT include your name or a heading on your essay.
- Please title your electronic document with your student ID number and format your essay as a .doc or .docx document.
- Upload to Moodle

CITATIONS

- You must include parenthetical citations to the textbook [and any other sources you might use, although they are not at all required] for both DIRECT QUOTATIONS and PARAPHRASES of the authors you cite.
- A works cited page is not required unless you use sources beyond the course textbook.

ASSIGNMENT

Choose a moral dilemma that you face in your life, have seen in a movie or read about in a novel, or one of many moral dilemmas that face the leaders of cities, states, and countries every day. If you are having trouble thinking of one, you may use one of the Case Studies discussed in class (and posted on Moodle).

Write a short essay (3–4 pages) in which you describe the moral dilemma and argue for the solution that you think has the greatest moral worth. Your essay should include the elements listed on the other side of this page.
REQUIRED ELEMENTS

DILEMMA: Describe the dilemma you have chosen in a one-paragraph introduction.

THESIS: At the end of your introduction, write a thesis statement in which you clearly articulate what you think the most moral solution to the dilemma is.

THEORETICAL JUSTIFICATION: In this section of your essay (1-3 paragraphs), defend the solution to the dilemma you have proposed using Utilitarian or Kantian principles. Explain the principles you choose to apply in detail, making careful reference to the text(s) we have read. In addition, clearly and carefully apply the principles to the scenario you have chosen.

OBJECTION(S): In this section of your essay (1-2 paragraphs), raise at least one objection to your own view. Explain the objection in detail. If you have defended your position using Utilitarian principles, might someone argue that Utilitarianism actually speaks in favor of a different conclusion? Or, might someone critique the principles according to which you have defended your conclusion? (For example, how might a Kantian or Aristotelian critique a Utilitarian approach? How might a Utilitarian of Maria van Herbert critique a Kantian approach?)

RESPONSE(S) to OBJECTION(S): In the final section of your essay (1-2 paragraphs), respond to the objection(s) you have raised, defending or modifying your proposed solution to the dilemma in response to the critique raised.

*If you raise more than one objection, I would suggest raising one objection, and then responding to it, and then raising your next objection, and responding to it.*

CONCLUSION: Conclude your essay with a few remarks about what you hope your reader has learned (about the type of scenario you have discussed, about moral dilemmas in general, about a specific ethical theory, etc.) from your analysis. These should be lessons that move beyond the scope of the essay and describe how your reader apply the lessons they have learned from your essay to future moral theorizing (discussions of Kant, Mill, etc.) and/or practical moral decision-making beyond the details of this specific scenario.