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PHIL 201.01: Political Ethics

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Philosophy 201 Political Ethics  
Fall 2002  
Professor Clark  
Office: 724 Eddy, #6  
Office Hrs: MWF 12 - 1:00pm.

Texts
Plato, Five Dialogues  
Fac Pac (Notice that this includes extensive—and required, reading.)  
Kant, Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals  
Mill, Utilitarianism  
Marx and Engels, Communist Manifesto.  
Douglass, Narrative of Frederick Douglass.

Course outline, inclusive of texts and viewing materials (presented in order of assignment):
Part I  Background Considerations.  
1. Film: Crimes and Misdemeanors (viewed and discussed in class).

Part II  Traditional Views.  
3. Fac Pac: Aristotle, "Nicomachean Ethics".  
4. Kant, Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals (concentrate on pages assigned in class).  
5. Mill, Utilitarianism (concentrate on pages assigned in class).  

Part III  Natural Law Ethics Classical and Modern  
7. Fac Pac: Saint Thomas Aquinas, "The Classical Version of Natural Law Ethics".  
10. Fac Pac: Sections of the U. S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Part IV  Interlude—Assessment—Transition to Part V  
11. Narrative of Frederick Douglass

Part V  Natural Law Ethics Contemporary  
12. Fac Pac: Rawls, "A Theory of Justice".  
13. Fac Pac: Nozick, "The Entitlement theory".

Part VI  Implications and Preliminary Assessment of Part V  
14. Plato: Five Dialogues, "Crito".  
15. Fac Pac: Rawls, "Civil Disobedience and the Social Contract".  
16. Fac Pac: Dworkin, "Taking Rights Seriously".  
17. Fac Pac: Gregg v. Georgia, "The Death Penalty".  
18. Fac Pac: Finnis, "What’s Wrong With Homosexuality?".

Part VII  Final assessment and identification of remaining issues.