

# PHILOSOPHY 1B: HOW SHOULD I LIVE?

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## 1. WHY BE GOOD?

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### 1 WHY BE GOOD?

#### 1.1 *Don't be good! Just appear to be*

Lecture 1  
January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019

#### **Readings:**

Nielsen, "Why Should I Be Moral? Revisited"

Plato and Grube, *The Republic*, Book I

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*The Republic's analysis*

In trying to answer the question "Why be good?", we start by analysing the socratic dialogue in *Plato's - The Republic, Book I*. The main issue raised, which is left unanswered by the end of this text can be put forward as "*Must we really be moral, can't we just fake it?*"

The text opens with Socrates being invited to discuss philosophical matters with a well-to-do elder - Cephalus. For Cephalus, to be good is nothing but to be just, to follow some simple rules and nothing to worry much about. According to him and his son, one follows the rules, makes some money, pays his debt

#### 1.2 *To avoid punishment*

Lecture 2  
January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

#### **Readings:**

Plato and Grube, *The Republic*, Book II, 257-357e

#### 1.3 *Because it's all you can do!*

Lecture 3  
January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

#### **Readings:**

Feinberg, "Part III - Psychological Egoism"

Shafer-Landau, "Part III - Ethical Egoism"

#### 1.4 *Because it's good for you to be good!*

Lecture 4  
January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019

#### **Readings:**

Plato and Grube, *The Republic*, Book IX

Plato and Grube, *The Republic*, Book II, 443d-444b

Aristotle, Broadie, and Rowe, *Nicomachean Ethics*, Book I 443d-444b

#### 1.5 *Because of the sort of being that you are!*

Lecture 5  
January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019

#### **Readings:**

Shafer-Landau, "Part III - Morality as a system of hypothetical imperatives"

#### 1.6 *Because (duh) it's good!*

Lecture 6  
January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

#### **Readings:**

Plato and Taylor, *Protagoras*

Aristotle, Broadie, and Rowe, *Nicomachean Ethics*, Book VII

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**Aristotle et al.: Nicomachean Ethics, Book I 443d-444b** **AristotleI**

Aristotle, S. Broadie, and C. Rowe. *Nicomachean Ethics, Book I 443d-444b*. Oxford University Press, 2002.

**Aristotle et al.: Nicomachean Ethics, Book VII** **AristotleVII**

Aristotle, S. Broadie, and C. Rowe. *Nicomachean Ethics, Book VII*. Oxford University Press, 2002.

**Feinberg: Part III - Psychological Egoism** **PsychEgoism**

Joel Feinberg. "Part III - Psychological Egoism". In: *Ethical theory: an anthology*. Ed. by Russ Shafer-Landau and Joel Feinberg. John Wiley & Sons, Incorporated, 2012. Chap. 19, pp. 167–77.

**Nielsen: Why Should I Be Moral? Revisited** **Nielsen1984**

Kai Nielsen. "Why Should I Be Moral? Revisited". In: *American Philosophical Quarterly* 21.1 (1984), pp. 81–91.

**Plato et al.: The Republic, Book I** **PlatoRepublicI**

Plato and G.M.A Grube. *The Republic, Book I*. Hackett Publishing, 1992.

**Plato et al.: The Republic, Book II, 257-357e** **PlatoRepublicII**

Plato and G.M.A Grube. *The Republic, Book II, 257-357e*. Hackett Publishing, 1992.

**Plato et al.: The Republic, Book II, 443d-444b** **PlatoRepublic2**

Plato and G.M.A Grube. *The Republic, Book II, 443d-444b*. Hackett Publishing, 1992.

**Plato et al.: The Republic, Book IX** **PlatoRepublicIX**

Plato and G.M.A Grube. *The Republic, Book IX*. Hackett Publishing, 1992.

**Plato et al.: Protagoras** **Protagoras**

Plato and C.W. Taylor. *Protagoras*. Oxford University Press, 2009.

**Shafer-Landau: Part III - Ethical Egoism** **EthicalEgoism**

Russ Shafer-Landau. "Part III - Ethical Egoism". In: *Ethical theory: an anthology*. Ed. by Russ Shafer-Landau. John Wiley & Sons, Incorporated, 2012. Chap. 21, pp. 193–199.

## REFERENCES

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### **Shafer-Landau: Part III - Morality as a system of hypothetical imperatives** **HypotheticalImperatives**

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“Part III - Morality as a system of hypothetical imperatives”. In: *Ethical theory: an anthology*. Ed. by Russ Shafer-Landau. John Wiley & Sons, Incorporated, 2012. Chap. 16, pp. 138–143.