

ECS 188 – Spring 2025 [Week 7]

# KANTIANISM

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#### Pure Practical Reason



Moral Law (objective principle)

Universalization

Balance

Epistemology

Ontological

**End-in-itself** 

(worth of Rational Being / objective ground)

Practical Reason (what ought I to do?)

reason

Pure Reason (what is?)

Thing-in-itself

(Knowledge)

Self-Legistative

Maxim (subjective principle)

Innate

**Subjective** 

(belief)

Why Vote?

Objective (belief)

Good-in-itself

(qualify of will)

Autonomous (human condition)

Moral Value

Good Will

Outcome

Inclination

Qualified Good

Respect

Means

(action)

Power of Choice (freedom)

Ends (humanity)

Purpose

Duty

uty Mc

Moral Worth Unqualified Good

Intention

(practical reason)

V∕ill

Right (co-exist with everyone's freedom)

Virtue (duty's as its end)



Nothing can possibly be conceived in the world, or even out of it, which can be called **good without qualification**, except a **good will**.

Duty is the necessity of an action done out of respect for the law.

**Act** only in accordance with that **maxim** through which you can at the same time will that it become a **universal law**.

A maxim is the **subjective principle** of **volition**; the **objective principle** (i.e., the practical law) would be the rule that would serve all **rational beings** as the **objective ground** of a maxim.

**Immanuel Kant** 

[Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals Ak 4:393, 4:400, 4:421, 4:421]



**Autonomy** of the will is the property of the will by which it is a **law to itself** (independently of all properties of the objects of volition).

So act that you use **humanity**, whether in your own person or in the person of any other, always at the same time as an **end**, never merely as a **means**.

A rational being belongs to the **kingdom of ends** as a member, when he **legislates** in it **universal laws** while also being himself subject to these laws.

**Immanuel Kant** 

[Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals Ak 4:440, 4:429, 4:439–440]



Virtue is the moral strength of the will in fulfilling its duty.

Any action is **right** if it can coexist with **everyone's freedom** according to a universal law.

**Right** is concerned only with the external and indeed practical relation of one person to another, in so far as their actions, as deeds, can exert influence on each other. ... **Virtue**, by contrast, has inner freedom, i.e. the **conformity of actions** to duty from the motive of **duty itself**, as **its end**.

**Immanuel Kant** 

[Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals Ak, 6:397, 6:230, 6:213]