

## Paper Assignment for Introduction to Ethics

Over the past three weeks, we have discussed a number of moral views, including:

- **Aristotelian Ethics**
- Divine Command Theory
- **Kantian Ethics**
- Moral Relativism
- **Natural Law Theory**
- **Social Contract Theory**
- **Utilitarianism**

Your assignment is to write a paper applying these theories to a current moral/political issue that interests you. Examples might include:

- Euthanasia
- Gay Marriage
- The War in Iraq
- Health Care

You may select any issue you wish (except for abortion, which we will be discussing in class), though you may wish to run your topic by me, via email, just to make sure it is appropriate. The assignment, specifically, is to take two (2) of the **bolded** theories above. You will then write a **3-5 page paper** in which you offer arguments from the perspective of these two theories about the issue you have chosen. You should select theories that you believe would offer opposing viewpoints on this issue. The paper should include:

- An explanation of the issue to be discussed.
- An argument from each theory about the issue.
- An objection from each theory to the other's argument.
- A discussion of your own view on the issue at hand, as well as whether you agree with either of the theories you have discussed.

Please remember that you are offering **arguments**, not just opinions. Be creative! Don't just say things like "the Utilitarian would just say to do whatever would make everyone happy here." Think about **why** these theorists believe what they believe and use that to construct an argument from their viewpoint.