

Sequence 06 - Virtue Ethics Part 1 (24S1)

Activity 1: Mini Quiz

Now, it's time to briefly test yourself on what you've just learned! Answer the three multiple choice questions below. Your responses here will not count towards the final grade for this course. However, you will be unable to proceed with the session until you answer all the questions correctly.

1

How is virtue ethics fundamentally different from both deontology and utilitarianism?

Choose one of the following answers.

- According to virtue ethics, the most fundamental question in ethics is not the question of "What should I do?"
- Virtue ethics ask "what kind of person should I be?"
- Virtue ethics define the morally right action as the action that the virtuous person would do in the situation.
- **All of the above.**

2

What does human flourishing require, according to Aristotle?

Choose one of the following answers.

- **The successful exercise of reason.**
- Benevolence and wisdom.
- Having absolutely no vices.
- None of the above.

3

When a person has completely attained all the moral virtues, he will necessarily be flourishing as a human being.

Choose one of the following answers.

- True. Moral virtues guarantee human flourishing.
- **False. Moral virtues are necessary but not sufficient for any human to flourish.**

Activity 2: Vote for your favourite moral theory

So far, we have covered 3 different types of ethical theories: utilitarianism, deontology and virtue ethics. Based on what you've learned, **which one of the theories is most appealing to you?**

You'll be able to see your classmates' responses after submitting yours. There is no right or wrong answer to this question - this is just an exercise for you to get to know what your classmates are thinking.

- Utilitarianism
- Deontology
- Virtue ethics
- None of the above

Final Activity: Graded Quiz

You have reached the last compulsory activity for this session.

On the next page is a quiz, comprising ten multiple choice questions related to what we have covered in this sequence.

There is only one correct response to each question. You can attempt the quiz up to 3 times. Your score from your last attempt of the quiz **will count towards your overall grade** for this course.

1

According to virtue ethics, an action is right:

Choose one of the following answers.

- If the virtuous person gives you the permission to do it.
- If and only if it makes me a more virtuous person in the situation.
- **If and only if it is an action that a virtuous person would do in the situation.**
- If the action is what a virtuous person would do in the situation.

2

Which one of the following is not a moral virtue?

Choose one of the following answers.

- Temperance
- Honest
- Justice
- **Extroversion**

3

The following statement about a moral exemplar is not true:

Choose one of the following answers.

- A moral exemplar is an ideally virtuous role model.
- The morally right action is what the moral exemplar would do.
- **A moral exemplar cannot have any vices**
- A moral exemplar should be imitated only in situations where the virtue he exemplifies is relevant.

4

Aristotle's theory of the good human life excludes the following:

Choose one of the following answers.

- Possession of moral virtues.
- Successful exercise of reason.
- Having friends and family.
- **Lacking some moral virtues.**

5

When does one attain eudaimonia?

Choose one of the following answers.

- When one has attained all the virtues.
- When one has reached the maximum threshold of pleasure.
- When one can control one's emotions and passions.
- **When one is flourishing as a human being.**

6

Which one of the following statements about loyalty is true?

Choose one of the following answers.

- Loyalty means being partial to the interests of certain people over others.
- Loyalty to friends and family is necessary to a good human life.
- **All of the other three options combined.**
- Loyalty involves the willingness to make sacrifices for your friends and family.

7

Which virtue best allows us to live in a cooperative, harmonious society as human beings?

Choose one of the following answers.

- Loyalty
- Honesty
- **Benevolence**
- Temperance

8

How should we handle moral complexity, according to virtue ethics?

Choose one of the following answers.

- Cultivate the wisdom to deliberate always according to a golden rule.
- **Recognising that virtue-based moral rules are not absolute.**
- Try to unify all our moral experiences and compare with utilitarianism and deontology.
- Follow exactly what the virtuous person has done his whole life.

9

What happens when two virtues conflict with each other?

Choose one of the following answers.

- We choose the action that will result in the greatest happiness.
- We rationally reflect and apply the Principle of Humanity.
- **We rationally reflect and decide one should trump another.**
- Not possible. We can never have conflicting virtues.

10

Benevolence should always trump loyalty because...

Choose one of the following answers.

- **None of the above is true because loyalty should trump benevolence sometimes.**
- Being partial is a vice.
- The world would be a better place if everyone is always concerned about everyone else.
- It helps us maintain a harmonious society, which is necessary to a good human life.