

ESSAY TOPICS FOR ESSAY 2

Write an essay of 2250-2500 words on ONE of the topics below:

1. What, if anything, does widespread moral disagreement tell us about the nature of morality?
2. Explain and critically assess one way in which Mackie defends moral nihilism.
3. Assuming we can gain moral knowledge, what is the best way to do so? Defend your position.
4. What, if anything, is different (in an epistemologically interesting way) about (i) learning that grass is green, and (ii) learning that stealing is morally wrong? What about (i) learning that $2+2=4$ and (ii) learning that stealing is morally wrong?
5. What, if anything, does evolutionary theory tell us about morality?
6. What is 'motivational internalism' about moral judgment? Explain one way from the content of the module in which this idea was important.
7. What is noncognitivism about moral thought and talk? Explain its key motivations and challenges.
8. Explain and critically assess Moore's Open Question Argument.
9. What is moral naturalism? Explain its key motivations and challenges.

DEADLINE: Monday 18 April 23:59 (submit via MMS)

Do not exceed the upper boundary of the word count – penalties will be applied automatically if you exceed 2500 words (even by one word!)

See MODULE OUTLINE on Moodle for essay requirements.

Use the ESSAY TEMPLATE on Moodle when writing your essay.

See the UG PHILOSOPHY HANDBOOK on Moodle for general essay-writing advice and the ESSAY MARKING CRITERIA used in Philosophy.

Additional advice and tips for writing philosophy essays can be found in the PINK GUIDE TO PHILOSOPHY and the PHILOSOPHY ESSAY GUIDANCE by DR PEDRIALI, both on Moodle.

See also the SAMPLE ESSAY provided on Moodle for an idea of what a good philosophy essay looks like.