



Philosophy & Ethics

Topics covered:

- **Philosophy:** Design, Causation, and Ontological Arguments for the Existence of God. The Problem of Evil. Religious Experience. Religious Language. Self, Death and the Afterlife.
- **Ethics:** Normative Ethical theories and application to: Telling lies, Theft, Embryo research, Abortion, Euthanasia, Capital Punishment, Eating animals and intensive farming, animal testing, animal blood sports, using animals for organs. Meta-Ethics. Freewill & moral responsibility. Conscience. Bentham & Kant.
- **Christianity:** Sources of wisdom and authority; the nature of God; Self, Death, & Afterlife; Religious behaviour towards humans and animals; Religious expression; Christianity, Gender and Sexuality; Christianity and Science; Secularism & Humanism; Migration and Religious pluralism.
- **Dialogues:** within this section there is no new content, but it requires a connection (or dialogue) between Christianity and philosophy or ethics.



Transition work:

1. Read Sophie's World by Jostein Gaarder. This book is a work of fiction, but it takes you through much of the history of philosophy and some ethics too. It is an excellent resource and may be something you come back to whilst studying the course. [ISBN: 978-1-4746-0228-0]
2. Watch the following clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgisehuGOyY>
 - Think about your response to the cosmological argument. Do you accept this argument for the existence of God? Why/why not?
3. Listen to the podcast – click 'Stream' on the following link: <http://www.radiolab.org/story/91510-kiddie-morality/#>
 - 'What is morality?' and 'Where does morality come from?'



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