THIS COURSE IS an introduction to Normative Ethical Theory, a tradition of systematic inquiry aimed at developing theories identifying and justifying general criteria for moral evaluations of actions, people, motives, intentions, character traits, rules, laws, etc.

We will examine the main western secular theories that have been offered, and aim to make a reflective and balanced assessment of each theory’s overall strengths and weaknesses.

We will employ classical and contemporary philosophical readings in tandem with fiction (mostly short stories).

There will be two exams, a term paper, and periodic quizzes & short writing exercises.

For more info please e-mail me at paulm@unh.edu