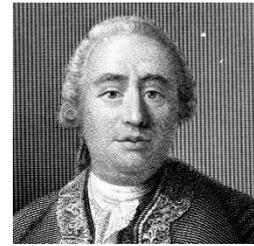


Philosophy Group @ Ipswich Institute

Hume on Morals



This is a five-week autumn course that will be conducted via Zoom. Zoom details will be emailed to participants. The course is a reading group.

The book: David Hume, *Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals*. This 1751 text, by Britain's greatest ever philosopher, remains very much worth reading. It takes a strikingly descriptive, naturalistic approach to ethics. It anticipates utilitarianism but merges it with virtue ethics. There is some good writing and some tremendous insight.

Editions. There are various editions; any edition from a reputable publisher would be fine. Yet, if you do not have the text already – and often it is published in one volume together with *Hume's Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* – then I recommend the edition of the *Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals* that is published by Hackett. That edition is available at the following webpage (which looks dodgy but, I am confident, is not): <<https://www.gazellebookservices.co.uk>>. One must go to that page and use the search function. Amongst the results, ensure you do not choose the hardback by accident. Alternatively, Amazon has these formats of the same edition: a Kindle version; a hardback; a paperback. I find that Kindle editions of academic books tend to be bad, but I have not checked this one.

In **our first week** will read section 'I' and section 'II'; and I will introduce 'Saint Hume' (as one enthusiastic admirer has called him) and his book. We will be reading some twenty pages a week.

Useful secondary texts (for the keen!) include: Blackburn, *How to Read Hume*, chs. 6, 7; Ayer, *Hume*, ch. 5; Norman, *The Moral Philosophers: An Introduction to Ethics*, ch. 5; Brown & Morris, *Starting with Hume*, chs 8–10 (though this last book is perhaps worse than the others).

TUTOR	Dr Nicholas Joll.
DATES	March 11 th – April 8 th , 2021. (Five sessions.)
DAY & TIME	Thursdays, 2–4pm (with a break in the middle of each session).
VENUE	Zoom.
COST	£27 (twenty-seven pounds), payable to the Institute. Payment is by posted cheque or by Shopify; cheques are preferred.