

Two-Day Workshop

VIRTUE AND MORAL REASONING UNDER OPPRESSIVE SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Concordia University in Montreal, February 10-11, 2018

KEYNOTES: Charlotte Witt (U New Hampshire), Eric Wiland (U Missouri, St. Louis), Elijah Millgram (U Utah), and Macalester Bell (Bryn Mawr College)

WEBSITE: <https://sites.google.com/site/vprm2017/>

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How should we think about virtue and practical rationality under oppressive conditions? Practical rationality and virtues are often understood in terms of ideals, such as: fully flourishing agents, ideal observers, or reasoners who are not subject to influences of sensibility. It is unclear, however, whether such ideals are helpful for us, non-ideal agents when facing real-life decisions in a non-ideal world.

We shall discuss questions such as: How can ideals of complete virtue or rationality be relevant for non-ideal agents in non-ideal social circumstances? What does it mean for oppressed people to be virtuous and rational? How do social structures make it difficult to become virtuous or rational? Are virtues or rationality relative to social and political contexts? Are some virtues essentially geared towards non-ideal social relations? What role should moral advice, testimony and consciousness-raising play in situations of oppression? How should we reason together about policies when our practical rationality is impaired?

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SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10th		SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11th
8:30-09:00	Greeting and Registration	
9:00-10:00	Eric Wiland (U Missouri, St. Louis): <i>Advice, Autonomy, and Empowering the Powerless</i>	Charlotte Witt (U New Hampshire): <i>Habituated Virtue and Social Norms in Aristotle</i>
10:05-11:00	Carlo DaVia (Fordham U): <i>Feminist Intuitions About Oppression and Agency</i>	Zoë Johnson King (U Michigan): <i>Don't Know, Don't Care?</i>
11:05-12:00	Amandine Catala (U Québec, Montréal): <i>Individual Virtues vs Oppressive Structures: Epistemic Agency and Epistemic Injustice</i>	Johnny Brennan (Fordham U): <i>'Trust in the World' and the Virtues Under Oppression</i>
Lunch Break		
14:00-14:55	Katharina Nieswandt & Ulf Hlobil (Concordia U, Montreal): TBA	Richard Runge (Humboldt U, Berlin): <i>Erich Fromm's Contribution to a Critical Theory of Virtue Ethics</i>
15:00-15:55	Ben Laurence (U Chicago): <i>Justice in the Midst of Injustice</i>	Ana Cutts Dougherty (Princeton in Latin America Fellow): <i>Epistemic Injustice and Blameworthiness</i>
Coffee Break		
17:00-18:00	Macalester Bell (Bryn Mawr College): <i>Taking Oneself Lightly in Dark Times</i>	Elijah Millgram (U Utah): <i>Custom and Customization</i>

