

FIL2207 - Høst 2011

## Philosophy of Action

### Pensum/læringskrav

Note: For an introductory overview of questions discussed in the course, see

- (1) Hornsby, J. (1998). "[Action](#)", in E. Craig (Ed.), *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. London: Routledge.
  - (2) Article by [Wilson](#), see below.
- Bratman, M. (1996), "[Identification, Decision, and Treating as a Reason](#)", reprinted in his (1999) *Faces of Intention*, Cambridge University Press, 185-206.
  - Chappell, Timothy, "[Internal and External Reasons](#)", Section 4 of "Bernard Williams", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Fall 2010 Edition)*, Edward N. Zalta (ed.). URL = <<http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2010/entries/williams-bernard/>>.
  - Clarke, R. (1993). "[Toward A Credible Agent-Causal Account of Free Will](#)", *Noûs*, 27(2):191-203
  - Davidson, Donald (1980). "[Action, Reasons and Causes](#)", "[How is Weakness of the Will Possible?](#)", "[Agency](#)", "[Intending](#)", all reprinted in his *Essays on Actions and Events*, Oxford University Press, (Note: pdf files can be downloaded from left-hand-side panel, but only one chapter at a time.)
  - Davidson, Donald (1982). "[Paradoxes of Irrationality](#)", in Wollheim & Hopkins ed., *Philosophical Essays on Freud*, Oxford University Press; reprinted in his (2004) *Problems of Rationality*.
  - Frankfurt, Harry (1971). "[Freedom of the Will and the Concept of a Person](#)", *The Journal of Philosophy* 68(1): 5-20.
  - Frankfurt, Harry (1978). "[The Problem of Action](#)", *American Philosophical Quarterly* 15(2): 157-162.
  - Frankfurt, Harry (1988) "[Identification and Wholeheartedness](#)", In Ferdinand Schoeman (ed.), *Responsibility, Character, and the Emotions: New Essays in Moral Psychology*, Cambridge University Press, 27-45.
  - Frankfurt, Harry (1992). "[The Faintest Passion](#)", reprinted in his (1998) *Necessity, Volition and Love*, Cambridge University Press.
  - Moran, R. (2004), "[Anscombe on 'Practical Knowledge'](#)" in J. Hyman and H. Steward (eds.), *Agency and Action*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 43-68.

- O'Connor, T. (2009). "[Conscious Willing and the Emerging Science of Brain and Behaviour](#)" in Nancey Murphy et. al. (eds), *Downward Causation and the Neurobiology of Free Will*, Berlin: Springer, 173-186.
- Setiya, Kieran, "[Intention](#)", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Spring 2011 Edition)*, Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <<http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2011/entries/intention/>>.
- Smith, Michael (1987) '[The Humean Theory of Motivation](#)', *Mind*, 96(381): 36-61.
- Stroud, Sarah, "[Weakness of Will](#)", [Sections 1 and 2](#), *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Fall 2008 Edition)*, Edward N. Zalta (ed.). URL = <<http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2008/entries/weakness-will/>>.
- Velleman, J. David (1992a). "[The Guise of the Good](#)", *Noûs* 26(1): 3-26.
- Velleman, J. David (1992b). "[What Happens When Someone Acts?](#)", *Mind*, 101(403): 461-481.
- Wallace, R. Jay (1990). "[How to Argue about Practical Reason](#)", *Mind*, 99(395): 355-385.
- Watson, Gary (1975). "[Free Agency](#)", *Journal of Philosophy* 72 (8):205-220.
- Wegner, Daniel (2003). "[The mind's best trick: how we experience conscious will](#)" *TRENDS in Cognitive Sciences*, 7(2): 65-69.
- Williams, Bernard (1981). "[Internal and External Reasons](#)", in his *Moral Luck*, Cambridge University Press.
- Wilson, George, "[Action](#)", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Fall 2009 Edition)*, Edward N. Zalta (ed.). URL = <<http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2009/entries/action/>>.

In addition, a few short extracts will be distributed in class.