

FIL 4400, H22, Bjørn Torgrim Ramberg with Mirela Fus.

This fall our topic will be conceptual ethics and conceptual engineering (CE). The basic idea is that we can (and should) examine and evaluate (“conceptual ethics”) various concepts (representational devices) that we rely on, and perhaps also propose and implement changes (“conceptual engineering”) to them. Over the past decade, there has been an explosion of work under these labels in Anglophone philosophy. What, if anything, unites the various strategies and approaches taken? What are the important areas of contention among CE advocates? What presuppositions and assumptions about thought and language are in play? What is the significance of CE for contemporary philosophy generally? Is it best regarded as a methodological programme for philosophy, a new area of philosophy, or perhaps as a way to understand philosophy more broadly? Grappling with these questions, we will read a number of recent contributions, many from the volume *Conceptual Engineering and Conceptual Ethics*, edited by Burgess, Cappelen, and Plunkett, OUP 2020. This book and other course material will be available online.