This course is designed to provide a brief overview of the major themes of classical ethics and thereby contextualise contemporary feminist critiques of traditional ethics. A second objective of this course is to provide a survey of contemporary feminist writings on ethics. In fulfillment of this second objective, students will read a variety of works from feminist philosophy to ecofeminism, standpoint theory, and lesbian ethics. The course will take up the question of whether there is a distinct “female” ethic and will enquire as to what this might look like.

**Required texts:**


Selected articles will be on reserve in the library.

**Assignments and grading:**

Class presentation on a special topic: 10%
Participation (attendance and participation in class): 15%
Midterm (take-home essay, 2 - 5 pages, set topics): 20%
Major essay (10 - 15 pages, set topics): 30%
Final exam (scheduled): 25%