

Ethics and Normativity Seminar Series

“Beneficence and Partial Compliance”



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The duty of beneficence must not be overly demanding, crowding out the rest of our moral and prudential lives. At the same time, beneficence must change in situations of partial compliance: we are required to do more when others don't pull their weight. These two claims are in tension, but deontological theories can offer a way out. Theories which recognize multiple irreducible sources of duty can recognize that the weights of our duties vary by context. In partial-compliance situations, we must usually do more. Yet because beneficence is just one duty among many, its demands are constrained.

Friday, Sep 20th
Agnes Arnold Hall - 210
3:00 – 5:00

Everyone is invited to continue discussion at *Axelrad* after the talk.