Schedule of Ethics Class

January 14	Happiness and friendship: What is the good and what does the scientific enterprise mean to us? Readings: Aristotle – Nicomachean Ethics (all 10 Books) Wade and Broad – Betrayers of the Truth (Chapter 1)
January 28	Do we know integrity from its absence? What do we learn from cases of scientific fraud and other types of amoral conduct? Readings: Wade and Broad – Betrayers of the Truth (remaining chapters) The Iminishi Kari case (reading TBD)
February 11	What is the purpose and impact of laws and other written rules of conduct? Readings: St. Thomas Acquinas – Summa Theologica – Problems 90-97 On the nature and structure of law National Academy of Science– Fostering Integrity in Research (selections)
March 11	Can we escape the logic of the master-slave syllogism? Reading: Harriet A. Washington – Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present
March 25	Is experimentation on human beings inherently immoral? Modern interpretations of beneficence and justice. Readings: Hume – Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals Belmont and Helsinki Reports
April 8	Student-led class – reading materials to be agreed upon by them and then assigned to all
April 22	Do we have and what is our obligation to the nation state? Reading: Nietzsche – <i>The Gay Science</i>
May 6	On the origins of religious feelings and our ingrained unhappiness Reading: Freud – <i>Civilization and its Discontents</i>