Are These True?

1. The moral cannot be practical;

2. What is good and moral differs from what one wants to do;

3. Self-interest invariably undermines social order and well-being;

4. Reason and emotion are opposing forces;

5. Worthy research and art are incompatible with money and business.
Questions for the filmed vignettes.

1. What are the facts?

2. What are the issues?

3. Who is the actor and what are his/her options?

4. What would you do?

5. What would have helped at the time?

Three clips: Kay, Roberto, and Carter.
Confucian Ethics

Kong Zi or Confucius (550–479 B.C.) has influenced over 2000 years of thought in China and beyond.

Master Kong developed the three principles of *Li*, *Jen*, and *Chun-Tzu*.

**Li**: the ideal standards of conduct: religious, moral, and social

**Jen**: the virtues of goodness and benevolence; a recognition of value and concern for others

The Silver Rule: "Don’t do unto others what you would not like them to do to you."

*Li* provides a structure for social interaction

*Jen* makes it a moral system.
Chun-Tzu

Chun-Tzu (or Junzi, ruler’s son):
the true or virtuous gentleman or person
he who lives by the highest ethical standards,
and displays the five virtues:

1. self-respect
2. generosity
3. sincerity
4. persistence
5. benevolence
Chun-Tzu

Relationships:

- as a son: loyal
- as a father: just and kind
- as a husband: righteous and just
- as an official: loyal and faithful
- as a friend: faithful and tactful

Note: Confucius held that we are inherently good creatures.
Against Christianity: ? Original sin.

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see http://www-chaos.umd.edu/history/ancient2.html for discussion of his disciples Meng Zi and Xun Zi and the schools of Literati and Legalism and of yin-yang and of Mo Zi.
Essay Topics

These have been handed out today.

Individual work, due by 4pm on October 6th.

Choose one topic only.

Maximum: 2000 words, in a critical essay.