

National Chung Cheng University (CCU) Online Lecture Series: Jonathan Dancy's Moral Philosophy (July 20-21, 2023)

Description of Lecture Series:

This lecture series is devoted to Jonathan Dancy's moral philosophy. Dancy is most renowned for his ground-breaking work on moral particularism, which, as he put it, is the view that the rationality of moral judgment and thought does not depend upon a supply of moral principles. Furthermore, particularism is rooted in his also renowned work on reasons holism, the view that what makes a moral reason for or against action in one context may not do so in another. For the past four decades, Dancy's twin doctrines of particularism and reasons holism have been subjected to a (purportedly) thorough examination, or have they? On the front of particularism, some express sympathies, advocating 'shapelessness' of the moral with respect to the natural in support (e.g. Peter Tsu, Debbie Roberts, and Simon Kirchin), while others remain unconvinced (Michael Ridge, Sean McKeever, Pekka Väyrynen, Frank Jackson, Michael Smith, Philip Pettit, Mark Schroeder), upholding various forms of anti-particularist/principled ethics. On the front of reasons holism, although it has attracted many supporters (Simon Kirchin, Alan Thomas, Christine Swanton, Ralf Bader), it is not lacking in dissenters as well (Roger Crisp, David McNaughton & Piers Rawling, Selim Berker, Daniel Fogal, Peter Tsu). Have the debates on both fronts lapsed into a deadlock? Could more progress be made on these issues? In this lecture series, we feel honored to invite Jonathan Dancy who provoked all these debates to give an opening address whose title will be 'What Was Prichard's Problem?' and in which he will further develop his view of reasons as 'favorers' by examining the metaphysics of the favoring relation. He will be joined by speakers and discussants who are stimulated by his moral philosophy (five of whom are from Asia), discussing its central themes ranging from particularism, reasons holism to rationality, narrative justification, practical reasoning and organic unities, etc. Dancy will also serve as a commentator. Part of the purpose of this lecture series is to make progress on various issues triggered off by Dancy's moral philosophy, and part of it is to make Asian voices on relevant issues heard. (written by organizer: Peter Shiu-Hwa Tsu)

Opening Address/Keynote Speaker:

Jonathan Dancy (Professor, University of Texas at Austin, U.S.; Fellow of British Academy)

Chair for Dancy's Opening Address:

Ser-Min Shei (Professor, National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan)

Discussants for Dancy's Opening Address:

Refeng Tang (Professor, Beijing Normal University, China)

Peter Shiu-Hwa Tsu (Professor, National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan)

Speakers: Keynotes are marked with asterisks

Nicholas Shackel* (Professor, Cardiff University/Oxford University, U.K.)

Alan Thomas* (Professor, University of York, U.K.)

Ryo Chonabayashi (Associate Professor, Soka University, Japan)

Shunsuke Sugimoto (Associate Professor, Keio University, Japan)

Kaoru Ando (Professor, Hitotsubashi University, Japan)

Peter Shiu-Hwa Tsu (Professor, National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan)

Commentator:

Jonathan Dancy

Dates of Lecture Series: **July 20-21** (Thursday and Friday, 15:30-21:30, Taiwan Time (GMT+8)), 2023

Application for Participation: Participation is free but application for participation is required. Please apply via <https://forms.gle/sS2wFNhErbK8UM7f9>. When your application is approved, you will be notified of acceptance via email with a conference link (probably around July 15).

Day 1 Program: July 20 (Thursday) 15:30-20:25

Welcome Speech from Organizer (15 minutes): 15:30-15:45

Speaker: Peter Shiu-Hwa Tsu,

Session 1 15:45-17:20

Opening Address (40 minutes) 15:45-16:25

Speaker: Jonathan Dancy

Title: What Was Prichard's Problem?

Discussion (30 minutes): 16:25-16:55

(1) Discussant 1: Refeng Tang + Dancy's Reply (15 minutes)

(2) Discussant 2: Peter Shiu-Hwa Tsu + Dancy's Reply (15 minutes)

Q and A (25 minutes): 16:55-17:20

Break 17:20-17:30

Invited Speaker's Talk format: Presentation (35-40 minutes)+ Dancy's Comment (10 minutes) + Reply (5 minutes) + Q & A (15-20 minutes)=70 minutes; keynotes are marked with asterisks

Session 2 17:30-18:40

Speaker: Ryo Chonabayashi

Title: Can Moral Particularists Be Robust Realists?

Break 18:40-18:50

Session 3 18:50-20:00

Speaker: Kaoru Ando

Title: Moorean Axiology Still Not Dead: Dancy on Organic Unities

Break 20:00-20:10

General Discussion (Open to all) 20:10-20:25

Day 2 Program: July 21 (Friday)

Session 4 15:30-16:40

Speaker*: Alan Thomas

Title: The Role of the Imagination in Particularist Moral Judgement

Break: 16:40-16:50

Session 5 16:50-18:00

Speaker: Peter Shiu-Hwa Tsu

Title: Particularism, Underdetermination of Reason, and Embeddedness

Break 18:00-18:10

Session 6 18:10-19:20

Speaker: Shunsuke Sugimoto

Title: Particularism and AI

Break 19:20-19:30

Session 7 19:30-20:40

Speaker*: Nicholas Shackel

Title: Norms and Normative Focus

Break: 20:40-20:50

General Discussions (open to all): 20:50-21:10

Concluding Remark: 21:10-21:25

Speaker: Jonathan Dancy

Farewell Remark: 21:25-21:35

Speaker: Peter Shiu-Hwa Tsu

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