



Discrimination—Concept of discrimination, Wrongness-Accounts, and Experimental Method (2-4 August 2023, Aarhus University)

PhD-course (3 ECTS) under the Centre for the Experimental-Philosophical Study of Discrimination (Danish National Research Foundation)

Short description: the PhD-course aims to cover (i) the concept of discrimination in part exemplified by appearance discrimination, (ii) central wrongness-accounts, including Mental-State-Based Accounts, Objective-Meaning Accounts, and Harm-based accounts, and (iii) approaches to study discrimination experimentally (teachers: Didde Boisen Andersen, Andreas Bengtson, Hugo Cossette-Lefebvre, Bjørn Gunnar Hallsson, Søren Flinch Midtgaard, Francesca Minerva, Viki M.L. Pedersen, Simone Sommer Degn, and Søren Serritzlew)

By participating in this course students acquire the following abilities:

- To account for definitions of discrimination and central desiderata for such definitions
- To compare and critically assess central definitions of discrimination
- To critically apply definitions of discrimination to novel forms of discrimination, including appearance discrimination
- To account for central conceptions of the wrongness of discrimination
- To compare and critically assess central accounts for the wrongness of discrimination
- To understand and critically assess experimental designs for studying various forms of discrimination

Eligibility: the course is open to PhD-candidates involved in a relevant field, e.g., Political Science, Philosophy or Psychology.

Sign up: by mail to Søren Flinch Midtgaard (midtgaard@ps.au.dk) before May 1 2023.



Day 1 (August 2): On the concept of discrimination, Room TBA

A. Generic and group discrimination (teachers: Viki M.L. Pedersen and Søren Flinch Midtgaard) 10.00-11.30

Readings:

Altman, Andrew. 2020. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (20 pages)

Eidelson, Benjamin, *Discrimination and Disrespect* (Oxford Scholarship Online, 2015), chap. 1 (26 pages)

Lippert-Rasmussen, Kasper. 2013. Born Free and Equal?: A Philosophical Inquiry Into the Nature of Discrimination (Oxford Scholarship Online), chap. 1. (44 pages)

(Pages for A: 90)

12.00-13.00: Lunch

B. Appearance Discrimination (teacher: Francesca Minerva) 13.00-14.30

Mason, Andrew. 2017. Appearance, Discrimination, and Reaction Qualifications. *The Journal of Political Philosophy* 25(1): 48-71 (24 pages)

Mason, Andrew and Minerva, Francesca. 2020. Should the Equality Act 2010 be Extended to Prohibit Appearance Discrimination? *Political Studies*: 1-18. DOI: 10.1177/0032321720966480. (18 pages)

Mason, Andrew (2021). What is wrong with everyday lookism? *Politics, Philosophy & Economics*, 1-21 (22 pages)

Midtgaard, Søren Flinch (2022). 'I'm Just Stating a Preference!' Lookism in Online Dating Profiles', *Moral Philosophy and Politics* (23 pages)

(Pages for B: 87)



14.30-15.00: Tea and Coffee

C. Direct and Indirect Discrimination (teacher: Hugo Cossette-Lefebvre) 15.00-16.30

Khaitan, Tarunabh (2018) "Indirect Discrimination" in Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of the Ethics of Discrimination* (London and New York: Routledge). (11 pages)

Lippert-Rasmussen, Kasper. 2013. Born Free and Equal?: A Philosophical Inquiry Into the Nature of Discrimination (Oxford Scholarship Online), chap. 2. (25 pages)

Pedersen, Viki M.L. (2022) "Freeze the Biological Clock: Discrimination, Disrespect, and Fertility Preservation via Social Freezing," *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, 456-470. (15 pages)

Thomsen, Frej Klem (2018) "Direct discrimination" in Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of the Ethics of Discrimination* (London and New York: Routledge). (10 pages)

(Pages for C: 61)

(Pages for Day 1 A-C: 238)

18.30: Dinner

**Day 2 (August 3): On the wrongness of discrimination (when it is wrong),
Room TBA**

A. Mental-State-Based Accounts (Teacher: Søren Flinch Midtgaard) 9.30-10.30

Lippert-Rasmussen, Kasper. 2013. Born Free and Equal?: A Philosophical Inquiry Into the Nature of Discrimination (Oxford Scholarship Online), chap. 4 (26 pages)



Lippert-Rasmussen, Kasper (2018) "Respect and Discrimination" in Heidi M. Hurd (ed.), *Moral Puzzles and Legal Perplexities: Essays on the influence of Larry Alexander* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press). (16 pages)

(Pages for A: 42)

B. Objective-Meaning Accounts (Teacher: Viki M.L. Pedersen) 10.30-11.30

Hellman, Deborah (2018) "Discrimination and social meaning" in Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of the Ethics of Discrimination* (London and New York: Routledge). (10 pages)

Lippert-Rasmussen, Kasper. 2013. *Born Free and Equal?: A Philosophical Inquiry Into the Nature of Discrimination* (Oxford Scholarship Online), chap. 5 (24 pages)

(Pages for B: 34)

12.00-13.00: Lunch

C. Harm-Based Accounts (Teacher: Andreas Bengtson) 13.00-14.00

Arneson, Richard (2006) "What Is Wrongful Discrimination?" *San Diego Law Review*, 43 (4): 775-807 (33 pages)

Lippert-Rasmussen, Kasper. 2013. *Born Free and Equal?: A Philosophical Inquiry Into the Nature of Discrimination* (Oxford Scholarship Online), chap. 6 (37 pages)

(Pages for C: 70)

D. Climbing the mountain: the relation between the various wrongness accounts (Teachers: Andreas Bengtson, Viki M.L. Pedersen, and Søren Flinch Midtgaard) 14.00-15.00



Thomsen, Frej Klem (2022) “No Disrespect—But that Account Does Not Explain the Wrongness of Discrimination,” *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* (forthcoming) (25 pages)

Slavy, Adam and Parr, Tom (2015) “Harmless Discrimination,” *Legal Theory*, 21 (2): 100-114. (14 pages)

(Pages for D: 39)

(Pages for Day 2 A-D: 185 pages)

15.00: Tea and Coffee

Day 3 (August 4): How to study discrimination using experimental methods—lessons from the field

A. Folk intuitions regarding disrespect and harm in relation to discrimination (teacher: Bjørn Gunnar Hallsson) 9.30-10.30

Paper, TBA (25 pages)

B. Folk intuitions regarding central criteria for legitimate reaction qualifications (teacher: Didde Boisen Andersen) 10.30-11.30

Paper, TBA (25 pages)

12.00-13.00: Lunch



**C. Discrimination and comparators (teacher: Simone Sommer Degn and Søren Serritzlew)
13.00-14.00**

Paper, TBA (25 pages)

**D. The relevance of “what the people think?” (teachers: Viki M.L. Pedersen and Søren
Flinch Midtgaard) 14.00-15.00**

Kahane, G. (2013). The armchair and the trolley: An argument for experimental ethics.
Philosophical Studies, 162, 421-445. (25 pages)

Kauppinen, Antti (2015) “The Rise and Fall of Experimental Philosophy,” in *Experimental
Philosophy* vol. II (Oxford Scholarship Online). (31 pages)

Lindauer, M. (2020). Experimental philosophy and the fruitfulness of normative concepts.
Philosophical Studies, 177, 2129-2152. (24 pages)

(Pages for D: 80)

(Pages for Day 3 A-D: 155 pages)

15.00: Tea and Coffee and Goodbye

(Pages for all three days: 578)

Course requirements: Readings; Active participation in classes; 1500 words essay on a
topic within the course (to be handed in to Søren Flinch Midtgaard - midtgaard@ps.au.dk
– at the latest 14 days after the conclusion of the course. Will be assessed and commented
on by one of the teachers of the course).

Participation fee: 995 DKK.