

24.400
Proseminar in philosophy I

Fall 2003

Principia Ethica

1. Has Moore refuted Ethical Hedonism?
2. What does Moore mean by 'metaphysical' and 'natural'? In what ways does he think that Metaphysics is relevant/irrelevant to Ethics? Is he right?
3. Is it "demonstrably certain" that "the assertion 'I am morally bound to perform this action' is identical with the assertion 'This action will produce the greatest possible amount of good in the Universe'"? (Section 89).
4. What is Moore's method for discovering the great intrinsic goods and evils? Did he discover them?