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24.120 Moral Psychology Spring 2009

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Third Assignment

Due: 8th May

Length: 5–7 pages (i.e. around 2000 words)

Answer one question

- I. Is the existence of free-will compatible with what we know about the world?
- 2. Does Wegner give us good reasons for thinking that conscious will is an illusion?
- 3. What does Frankfurt mean when he talks of *identification* with a desire? Can we shed light on the question by considering Deci and Ryan's empirical work?
- 4. Should self-deception be modeled on the deception of others? How does the inter-personal account need to be modified to be applicable to the intra-personal case? Could we have empirical grounds for thinking that deflationary accounts like Mele's can't do what is needed?
- 5. Can findings from empirical psychology tell us anything about the nature of morality?
- 6. What, if anything, can syndromes like autism and sociopathy tell us about well functioning moral agents?