

## Phil 2, First Paper Assignment

**Maximum Length:** No more than two pages, double spaced, 12-point font, one-inch margins

**Due:** Friday, September 21, by 9:10am (before the lecture starts). Please hand in your paper, in person, to your GSI. *Please see the syllabus for other relevant policies.*

**Request:** We may circulate to the rest of the class a few papers, *with the authors' names removed*. These will be used as examples, both of things done especially well and of common mistakes. We would be grateful if you would allow us to do this. Everyone will benefit from it, most of all the students whose papers are used as examples. However, if you do *not* feel comfortable with this, then *please say so at the top of your paper*.

**Topic:**

Does utilitarianism support the following principle: “One is morally required not to lie”? Explain why or why not.

**Help:**

It may help to review Jim Pryor’s guidelines (at the beginning of your reader, before Smart).

In particular, your GSI and I will be looking for:

- clarity;
- organization;
- understanding and explanation of philosophical claims (such as utilitarianism); and
- understanding and explanation of the logical relations (such as support) among those claims.