



Philosophy & Ethics Seminar

June 28 – July 4, 2020
Pittsburgh, PA

About YSI

Youth Service International, Inc. organizes and directs activities for college and high school students from around the country.

Through its service projects and other educational activities, YSI provides a forum whereby each student is challenged to grow in virtues such as generosity, nobility, hard work, friendship, and solidarity.

The Christian orientation of all YSI programs is entrusted to Opus Dei, a personal Prelature of the Catholic Church (opusdei.org).

To Apply

- Fill out the online application at ysi.org, which includes an essay on why you would like to attend *Philosophy and Ethics Seminar*.
- Priority will be given to applications received by May 1, 2020.
- Send a \$25 deposit at the time of applying.
- Notification of acceptances will be mailed out beginning May 8, 2020.
- For those accepted, balance of payment should be paid by June 12, 2020. Deposit will apply toward cost.
- Payments can be made online at ysi.org.

Questions?

Email the staff at pes@ysi.org.

ysi.org



A PROGRAM BY YOUTH SERVICE INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Philosophy & Ethics Seminar

An Introduction to University Life

WHAT IS A UNIVERSITY EDUCATION and what can you expect from it? Is college just a way to prepare for a profession? Can it be something more?

The *Philosophy & Ethics Seminar* offers students a unique opportunity to experience a college-level class in the humanities. For five days, the students read and discuss a classical philosophical text. The classes are held in seminar-style and are led by an experienced college professor.

Each summer the seminar centers on one classic philosophical text which is accessible to the student but also demands serious effort. The readings are meant to raise deeper life questions, the kinds of questions that any student—whether a humanities major or not—should reflect on during his college years.

The 2020 Summer Seminar

The text for the 2020 seminar is Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*. The topic of this book is the fulfilled human life and includes discussions of happiness, virtue, and friendship. For over two thousand years, and even to our times, it has remained the starting point for all discussions of ethics.

The seminar will be taught by Dr. David M. Gallagher, former professor of Ethics at The Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.) and a Consulting Scholar at the James Madison Program of Princeton University.

Present Day Issues

In addition to the morning classes on the *Nicomachean Ethics*, Professor Gallagher will also lead a one-hour seminar each afternoon focusing on the subject of relativism. After an initial lecture, the remainder of the class time will be devoted to discussion and debate as a way to help the students learn how to recognize and critique relativistic claims which are commonly made in the media, in public policy, and in the university. As a result, students will be much better intellectually prepared to begin their college career.

Some time each day will be dedicated to reviewing the assigned readings in preparation for class.

General Information

The Seminar will be held at Warwick Study Center in Pittsburgh, PA. The cost of the Seminar is \$635. This fee covers all expenses except transportation to and from the seminar. The seminar is open to entering high school seniors and entering college freshmen.



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