

Humans vs. Animals: Agriculture, Climate Change, and Justice

PHI 519/CHV 519: Normative Ethics

Fall 2021

Professor: Adam Lerner

Description:

This seminar explores recent work in animal ethics with a focus on questions that arise in the context of climate change and agriculture. Questions include: Are familiar views about well-being, rights, population ethics, and distributive justice equally plausible when applied to animals? How should we make tradeoffs between the interests of humans, individual animals, and species? Does responsibility for avoiding collective harms lie with individuals or groups? Can we make progress in animal ethics by using cognitive science? Can we make progress on policy debates by factoring moral uncertainty into our deliberation?

Sample Reading List:

Jeff McMahan, "Our Fellow Creatures"

Peter Vallentyne, "Of Mice and Men: Equality and Animals"

Shelly Kagan, selections from *How to Count Animals, More or Less*

Eden Lin, "Welfare Invariabilism"

Julia Nefsky, "Consumer Choice and Collective Impact"

Hilary Greaves & Toby Ord, "Moral Uncertainty about Population Axiology"