Course Description

Controversial social issues like terrorism and torture often inspire strong emotional reactions, but few people are able to argue coherently about them, because they never subject their emotional response to critical evaluation. This course aims to help you sharpen your analytic skills by reading and discussing arguments about social issues such as abortion, euthanasia, world hunger, terrorism, torture, capital punishment, animal rights, and affirmative action. Each issue will feature at least two opposing viewpoints, and the class will weigh in to see who makes the best argument. Frequent small group discussions will encourage students to develop their own views on the morality of these issues.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about this course, please email at cvitrano@brooklyn.cuny.edu or stop by my office (3315 Boylan) during office hours on Tuesdays from 12:15 – 2:15 PM and on Thursdays from 12:15 – 1:25 PM.