



# Living Accountably: Accountability as a Virtue

## A one week masterclass in moral philosophy with Professor C. Stephen Evans

### DATE

7-10 November 2022

### TIME

10:00am-1:00pm

### VENUE

Moorgate Room,  
10 Grafton St, Chippendale  
The University of Notre Dame Australia

### APPLY

Applications now open!  
To apply, email Tim Smartt  
([timothy.smartt@nd.edu.au](mailto:timothy.smartt@nd.edu.au))  
before 5:00pm on **21 October 2022**.  
Spots are limited.



### Professor C. Stephen Evans

C. Stephen Evans is University Professor of Philosophy and the Humanities at Baylor University and Professorial Research Fellow at the Institute for Ethics & Society, The University of Notre Dame Australia. Evans has served for the last four years as the director of an interdisciplinary team of scholars studying accountability as a virtue, funded by the Templeton Religion Trust. He is the author of over 20 books, including *Living Accountably: Accountability as a Virtue* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

There is much talk about accountability in the contemporary world. When bad behavior is uncovered, there are cries to hold the guilty parties accountable and outrage when this is not done. This seems justified—we think people should be held accountable, and perhaps punished, for how they behave. This masterclass will focus on a more positive side of accountability by looking at the characteristics of persons who live accountably. Such people welcome being accountable to others: they have a virtue that could be called accountability.

This class will explore the nature of accountability as a virtue, as well as some of the ways in which its cultivation can positively impact society. We will examine the characteristics of the virtue itself, which is linked to the virtue the ancient Greeks described as justice. We will explore questions such as: How might accountability impact human flourishing? To whom

are we accountable? What is the role of accountability in the moral life generally? Can a secular morality make sense of accountability, or does it require the resources of religion? We will also examine the transformative power of accountability in relation to varied spheres of contemporary society, including business and non-profit organizations, 12-step programs that combat addictive behaviors, and the criminal justice system.

The masterclass will primarily focus on readings from Professor Evans' forthcoming monograph *Living Accountably: Accountability as a Virtue* (Oxford University Press).

Proudly presented by the Moral Philosophy & Ethics Education research program within the Institute for Ethics & Society.

For more details, contact Tim Smartt ([timothy.smartt@nd.edu.au](mailto:timothy.smartt@nd.edu.au)) or visit [notredame.edu.au/ies](http://notredame.edu.au/ies)



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