

Vancouver Island University and Regional Library proudly present:

THE PHILOSOPHERS' CAFÉ

Come join us at the Philosophers' Café – a public forum for debate. Each Café is on a different topic, briefly introduced by a knowledgeable presenter and opened to the floor for general discussion. Pose questions, present arguments, hear opposing viewpoints, and join in on the fun as we discuss tricky issues, theories, concepts and more!

SPRING LINEUP

THE TROLLEY PROBLEM AND MORAL TRUTH

Should you kill one person to save five? Through a series of ethical dilemmas known as “the Trolley Problem,” John Black will help you explore the nature of moral justification.

John Black is a former professor in Philosophy and Liberal Studies at VIU, as well as a retired dean of Social Sciences. His academic interests include Wittgenstein, ethics, and philosophy of mind.

Wednesday, Jan. 17th, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

FAKE NEWS

Is Fake News new? Is it dangerous? How can you protect yourself from the FN disease? Bob Lane, professor emeritus at VIU, prompts you to think about these questions and more.

Bob Lane was at VIU (then Malaspina) from 1969 to 2000. He was the first chair of the Philosophy Department, and the founding director of the Institute of Practical Philosophy. He has been a long time participant in the philosopher café movement in British Columbia.

Wednesday, Feb. 21st, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

ARE PROFESSIONAL COMBAT SPORTS IMMORAL?

The sports of boxing and mixed martial arts draw in millions of viewers and billions in revenue. But does the “intent to harm,” which lies at the core of these activities, make them immoral? What can be said in their defense?

Aidan Collier is a graduate student in philosophy at the University of Victoria. He is currently working on a major research project dealing with computer games and philosophy of sport.

Wednesday, March 21st, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

All Cafés are held free of charge at the Nanaimo Harbourfront Library (90 Commercial Street). After 5:00 pm, free parking is available at the Bastion Parkade (Skinner and Bastion).

