

2. Normative Ethical Theories		
<i>Two normative ethical theories: one deontological, one teleological</i>		
Topic	Content	Key Knowledge
Kantian Ethics*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kantian ethics, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ duty ○ the hypothetical imperative ○ the categorical imperative and its three formulations ○ the three postulates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • origins of the concept of duty (acting morally according to the good regardless of consequences) in deontological and absolutist approaches to ethics • what it is (a command to act to achieve a desired result) and why it is not the imperative of morality • what it is (a command to act that is good in itself regardless of consequences) and why it is the imperative of morality based on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formula of the law of nature (whereby a maxim can be established as a universal law) 2. Formula of the end in itself (whereby people are treated as ends in themselves and not means to an end) 3. Formula of the kingdom of ends (whereby a society of rationality is established in which people treat each other as ends and not means) • what they are and why in obeying a moral command they are being accepted: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freedom 2. Immortality 3. God
<p>Learners should have the opportunity to discuss issues raised by Kant's approach to ethics, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether or not Kantian ethics provides a helpful method of moral decision-making • whether or not an ethical judgement about something being good, bad, right or wrong can be based on the extent to which duty is best served • whether or not Kantian ethics is too abstract to be applicable to practical moral decision-making • whether or not Kantian ethics is so reliant on reason that it unduly rejects the importance of other factors, such as sympathy, empathy and love in moral decision-making 		