

Prize Essay Competition for Philosophy and Religious Studies

Currently enrolled Philosophy and Religious Studies majors at NC State are invited to submit a competitive essay on the topic of racism by January 15th, 2022.

Philosophy majors should address the topic of racism from a philosophical standpoint. Possible questions to focus on might include: the nature of racism; what makes racism objectionable; competing philosophical accounts of racism; the connection between racism and the metaphysics of race; the legitimacy of affirmative action as a way of addressing racism.

Religious Studies majors may consider racism and religion from a number of perspectives, including (but not limited to) how racist practices and views have shaped the histories of religious traditions; ways religious figures have contended with, opposed, and/or perpetuated racism; and the potential to address racism and its injustices by drawing on religious resources.

The essay should be between 1,000 and 2,000 words and must include a complete bibliography listing all references. Any assistance the author has received in writing the essay must be explicitly acknowledged in a footnote. If the essay is based on a paper submitted in a course, then the course, instructor, and semester must all be identified.

To submit an essay, email a pdf version to Ms. Joanna King, joanna_king@ncsu.edu, using the subject line "Essay Competition" at or before 5pm on January 15th, 2022. The first page of the pdf should contain the author's name and the title of the essay.

A prize of \$100 will be awarded to the best submission provided that the judges deem it to be of sufficient merit.