Course Description: Each week on Thursday a legal theorist or moral or political philosopher presents a paper to the group, which consists of students, faculty from the Law School and other departments of NYU, and faculty from other universities in or close to New York. The choice of subject is left to the paper’s author, within the general boundaries of the Colloquium’s subjects, and the discussions are therefore not connected by any structured theme for the term as a whole, though in past years certain central topics were canvassed in several week’s discussion. The Colloquium aims, not to pursue any particular subject, but to explore new work in considerable depth and so allow students to develop their own skill in theoretical analysis. Each week’s paper is distributed at least a week in advance, and participants are expected to have read it.

There was no Colloquium in Legal, Moral and Social Philosophy in 2004. The Colloquium will meet as usual in the Fall Term of 2005 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM each Thursday from September 8 through December 8 except Thanksgiving. Papers will be presented by Ronald Dworkin, David Dyzenhaus, Elizabeth Harman, Charles Larmore, Benedict Kingsbury, Mathias Kumm, Stephen Macedo, Liam Murphy Thomas Nagel, Tommie Shelby, Seana Shiffrin, Kathleen Sullivan and William Talbott.

Students enrolled in the Colloquium meet separately with me for an additional two-hour seminar on Wednesday. One hour is devoted to a review of the preceding Thursday’s Colloquium discussion, and one hour in preparation for the Colloquium of the following day. Students are asked to write short papers weekly, and each student is asked to make two or more oral presentations to the seminar during the term. Each student is asked to expand one of his or her weekly papers, or oral presentations, for a final term paper.