

The Beauty of Consistency - Course outline
One-day class: April 9, 2019 (9:30 am - 3:00 pm)
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I. What is Consistency?

A. Consistency v. Inconsistency

- Definition of consistency
- Definition of inconsistency
- Contraries
- Contradictories

B. Problems caused by inconsistency

- Cognitive dissonance & Orwell's two uses of "doublethink"
- What is truth?: Mill's & Rorty's concepts of 'truth'

II. Consistency and . . .

A. Rationality, understanding, making sense

B. Lying, hypocrisy, conflict of interest

- What is a "fact"?
- Emerson's "foolish consistency"
- Can we be impartial?: contemporary psychology

C. Rules, fairness, the rule of law, due process

D. Racism, sexism, and identity politics/loyalty