

As mentioned in the week 1 video, weeks 2, 3, and 4 will have a symposium discussion. The word "symposium" is a Greek word that refers to a banquet held after a meal, an after-party of sorts that usually included drinking, dancing, recitals, and engaging conversations on the topics of the day. The word also happens to be the title of the classic text by Plato, whose work you read last week. As you can probably guess, that work features a group of men who take the idea of engaging conversation to a whole new level and practically compete against one another in a sport of wit and words.

For our purposes in this course, the symposium discussions will not involve dancing, recitals, or a banquet, but they will provide food for thought on current ethical issues and direct application of the ethical theory discussed in each of these weeks. It is impossible these days to turn on the news or log on to social media without encountering a controversy that cries out for ethical discussion. For these symposiums, your instructor will choose a topic of current ethical interest and any resources associated with it. Your task is to consider how the ethical theory of the week might be used to examine, understand, or evaluate the issue.