

RIEL Essay Prize

12 March '19

The Research Institute of Ethics and Law (RIEL) invites students to submit an essay for the RIEL Essay Prize.

Eligibility: Any currently enrolled student of Swansea University.

Topic: Any topic in Applied Ethics or the Philosophy of Law.

Examples of questions that fall within this rubric include:

- Should British nationals convicted of terrorist offences be stripped of their citizenship?
- Do states have a moral right to exclude would-be migrants?
- Is experimentation on animals always wrong?
- Should trans women be allowed to compete in women's sport?
- Should cyberbullying be criminalised?
- Does civil disobedience have a legitimate place in liberal democracies?
- Is judicial review anti-democratic?
- What moral obligation, if any, do we have to protect the environment?

Deadline for Submission of Essays: 28 April '19

Word Count: 2000 words (excluding references)

Prize:

- £500 (Winner)
- £300 (Runner-up)
- £100 (Third Place)
- £50 each (Fourth and Fifth Place).

Competition Format: From the pool of submitted papers, a shortlist of candidates will be made. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to make an 8 minute oral presentation

of their paper and to respond to judges' questions for a maximum of 7 minutes at a public 'Finals Evening' to be held on the Singleton Campus on 16 May '19. They will also be invited to submit a 150 word abstract of their paper one day prior to the Finals Evening. Candidates **must** be available to participate in person at the Finals Evening.

Submission: Essays should be submitted to RIELadmin@swansea.ac.uk with subject line:

RIEL ESSAY SUBMISSION

Candidates should submit **two** separate documents (in PDF or Word format):

1. Cover Sheet

This document should include the following information about the candidate:

- a. Name
- b. Student number
- c. Swansea University email address
- d. Essay title

2. Essay

The essay should be **anonymised** so that it contains no information that might reveal the identity of the candidate.

The submitted work must be single-authored and should not have been submitted previously for any formal academic assessment. Software to detect plagiarism will be used. Candidates are permitted to submit to the contest one paper only in any given year. The topic or question that the paper addresses should be clearly stated in the title of the paper.

Criteria of assessment: In assessing submitted papers, judges will place a strong focus on:

- Originality of the topic and its treatment
- Analytical rigour of the argument

Timeline:

28 April: Submission deadline

8 May: Candidates informed of shortlisting decisions

15 May: Shortlisted candidates to submit abstract of their paper in advance of Finals Evening

16 May: Shortlisted candidates present and defend their papers at Finals Evening

Enquiries, including whether a proposed topic falls within the scope of the Prize's subject areas, should be directed to Dr. John William Devine (j.w.devine@swansea.ac.uk).