

HOMESTY & AUTHENTICITY

a philosophy talk by Robert Miner

of Baylor University

Are "honesty" and "authenticity" the same or different? In this talk, Professor Miner will first explain why a clean separation of honesty from authenticity is more difficult than it might seem. Then, making use of Plato, Aquinas, and Montaigne, he will show why it's a mistake to collapse honesty into the disposition to "say true things." One can "have no filter" and yet be a phony. This helps us understand what authenticity is and that it isn't the distinctively modern concept both its proponents and detractors take it to be. In fact, Socrates embodies a strong concept of authenticity. The modern romantic ideal of authenticity (discussed by Charles Taylor) thus should not be identified with authenticity tout court, but only as a later intriguing and questionable offshoot.

Friday, Nov. 6th, 3:30pm via Zoom email pressmas@email.sc.edu for details