

Philosophy 3330 Spring 2021  
Reading questions #14  
Due Tue, April 27

Read Chapter 12 of Jacob Stegenga's *Care and Cure: An Introduction to Philosophy of Medicine* and then answer the following questions. Your answers should be uploaded in Blackboard.

1) On one natural model of diagnosis, to diagnose someone with a disease is to explain why they have the symptoms that they have. In psychiatry, diseases or disorders (such as depression, autism spectrum disorder, or generalized anxiety disorder) are often diagnosed by symptoms alone. For example, if you have excessive, uncontrollable, and often irrational worry about events or activities you might be diagnosed with generalized anxiety disorder. But critics might claim this is just a label for your symptoms and doesn't explain anything and so shouldn't really count as a "diagnosis." Are the critics right here?

2) Should diseases like depression have diagnostic exclusion criteria, such as bereavement due to loss of a family member or stress due to loss of a job? Why or why not?

3) After reading the chapter, try to come up with a question that you want answered or a topic that you would like to be discussed further. This could be something that the chapter forced you think about or it could be something that you thought was particularly confusing in the chapter.