

ESSENTIAL VIRTUES

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A Comparative Analysis of Virtues Across Philosophical Traditions											
Plato	Aristotle	Jainism	Catholicism	Ben Franklin	G. E. Moore	Erik Erikson	Comte-Sponville	John Templeton	William Bennett	Cawley et al.	Dahlgard et al.
Courage	Courage	Forgiveness	Wisdom	Temperance	Interpersonal enjoyment	Hope	Politeness	Creativity	Self-Discipline	Empathy	Wisdom & knowledge
Justice	Temperance	Humility	Fortitude	Silence	Aesthetic enjoyment	Will	Fidelity	Curiosity	Compassion	Order	Courage
Prudence	Generosity	Straightforwardness	Temperance	Order		Purpose	Prudence	Diligence	Responsibility	Resourcefulness	Humanity
Temperance	Philanthropy	Purity	Justice	Resolution		Competence	Temperance	Entrepreneurialism	Friendship	Serenity	Justice
	Magnanimity	Truthfulness	Faith	Frugality		Fidelity	Courage	Forgiveness	Work		Temperance
	Honor	Self-Restraint	Hope	Industry		Love	Justice	Future-mindedness	Courage		Transcendence
	Gentleness	Penance	Love	Sincerity		Care	Generosity	Generosity	Perseverance		
	Friendliness	Renunciation		Justice		Wisdom	Compassion	Honesty	Honesty		
	Truthfulness	Non-Attachment		Moderation			Mercy	Humility	Loyalty		
	Wit	Celibacy		Cleanliness			Gratitude	Joy	Faith		
	Justice			Tranquility			Humility	Love			
	Knowledge			Chastity			Simplicity	Purpose			
	Art			Humility			Tolerance	Reliability			
	Prudence						Purity	Thrift			
	Intuition						Gentleness				
	Wisdom						Good Faith				
							Humor				
							Love				

THE VIA CLASSIFICATION OF STRENGTHS AND VIRTUES

WISDOM	CREATIVITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">OriginalityAdaptiveIngenuity	CURIOSITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">InterestNovelty-SeekingExplorationOpenness	JUDGMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none">Critical ThinkingThinking Things ThroughOpen-mindedness	LOVE OF LEARNING <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mastering New Skills & TopicsSystematically Adding to Knowledge	PERSPECTIVE <ul style="list-style-type: none">WisdomProviding Wise CounselTaking the Big Picture View
COURAGE	BRAVERY <ul style="list-style-type: none">ValorNot Shrinking from FearSpeaking Up for What's Right	PERSEVERANCE <ul style="list-style-type: none">PersistenceIndustryFinishing What One Starts	HONESTY <ul style="list-style-type: none">AuthenticityIntegrity	ZEST <ul style="list-style-type: none">VitalityEnthusiasmVigorEnergyFeeling Alive	
HUMANITY	LOVE <ul style="list-style-type: none">Both Loving and Being LovedValuing Close Relations with Others	KINDNESS <ul style="list-style-type: none">GenerosityNurturanceCare & CompassionAltruism"Niceness"			SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none">Aware of the Motives/Feelings of Self/OthersKnowing what Makes Other People Tick
JUSTICE	TEAMWORK <ul style="list-style-type: none">CitizenshipSocial ResponsibilityLoyalty			FAIRNESS <ul style="list-style-type: none">JustNot Letting Feelings Bias Decisions About Others	LEADERSHIP <ul style="list-style-type: none">Organizing Group ActivitiesEncouraging a Group to Get Things Done
TEMPERANCE		FORGIVENESS <ul style="list-style-type: none">MercyAccepting Others' ShortcomingsGiving People a Second Chance	HUMILITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">ModestyLetting One's Accomplishments Speak for Themselves	PRUDENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none">CarefulCautiousNot Taking Undue Risks	SELF-REGULATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">Self-ControlDisciplinedManaging Impulses & Emotions
TRANSCENDENCE	APPRECIATION OF BEAUTY & EXCELLENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none">AweWonderElevation	GRATITUDE <ul style="list-style-type: none">Thankful for the GoodExpressing ThanksFeeling Blessed	HOPE <ul style="list-style-type: none">OptimismFuture-MindednessFuture Orientation	HUMOR <ul style="list-style-type: none">PlayfulnessBringing Smiles to OthersLighthearted	SPIRITUALITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">ReligiousnessFaithPurposeMeaning

THE THREE VIRTUES

Caring
Inquisitiveness
Self-Control



Character.org
& Thomas J.
Sergiovanni
(1992)

Caring

Heart

Inquisitiveness

Head

Self-Control

Hand

	Character.org & Thomas J. Sergiovanni	Competency clusters for the 21 st century (National Research Council, 2012)
Caring	Heart	Interpersonal
Inquisitiveness	Head	Cognitive
Self-Control	Hand	Intrapersonal

	Character.org & Thomas J. Sergiovanni	Competency clusters for the 21 st century (National Research Council, 2012)	Key competencies in youth (Park et al., 2016)
Caring	Heart	Interpersonal	Interpersonal
Inquisitiveness	Head	Cognitive	Intellectual
Self-Control	Hand	Intrapersonal	Intrapersonal

	Character.org & Thomas J. Sergiovanni	Competency clusters for the 21 st century (National Research Council, 2012)	Key competencies in youth (Park et al., 2016)	Oz
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VIRTUE ESSENTIALISM

- Relatively few in number (Bok, 1996)
- Universal and essential to survival and flourishing (Peterson & Seligman, 2004; Voltaire, 1766/2010)
- Evolutionary precursors of virtues and vices are identifiable (McGrath, 2016)

VIRTUE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONISM

- Caring
 - The merging of Athenian and Judeo-Christian moralities
- Self-Control
 - Social stabilization
 - Capitalist systems (Haidt, in press)
- Inquisitiveness
 - The development of the printing press
 - The development of the Internet

SOME IMPLICATIONS FOR CHARACTER EDUCATION

- These three may not be sufficient, but they are necessary
- The reciprocity of the virtues
 - Character education that focuses on only one is insufficient
- The benefits
 - Personal
 - Interpersonal
 - Cultural
 - Together they contribute to the life well-lived (eudaimonia)
- The essentials of character
 - Caring without reward
 - Questioning without crisis
 - Discipline without structure