

Introduction to Political Philosophy

Freedom, Equality, and Community

The University of Toronto

PHL 265 – Winter 2016

Syllabus

This course will provide an introduction to political philosophy through the lens of three major values: freedom, equality, and community. After a survey of Aristotle's political thought, we study three influential social contract thinkers of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries—Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau—and their endeavors to explain the foundations and boundaries of legitimate authority and material inequality in a way that is consistent with the premise that all individuals are by nature free and equal. Next, we turn to several studies of the relationship between the individual and society, including Smith's examination of the free market, Mill's defense of individual liberty, Hegel's socially embedded conception of freedom, and Marx's radical attempt to extend the values of freedom and equality across the economic sphere. Turning to contemporary thought, we examine John Rawls's influential statement of liberal egalitarianism and its critics, and then conclude with some of the writers who are exploring the new frontiers of political philosophy, such as feminism, minority rights, global justice, and climate justice.

Meeting:	Tues. & Thurs. 10:10-11:00 + Discussion Section	Banting Institute 131
Instructor:	Andrew Franklin-Hall	
Contact:	andrew.franklin.hall@utoronto.ca	
Office Hours:	Thursday 1-3 and by appointment	Jackman Humanities Building 170 St. George St. #428
Teaching Assistants	Clinton Debogorski clinton.debogorski@mail.utoronto.ca	Eric Mathison eric.mathison@mail.utoronto.ca
	Rachel MacKinnon rachel.mackinnon@mail.utoronto.ca	

Email Communication and Office Hours

We will communicate with you using your utoronto email address. It is your responsibility to check your email regularly.

Likewise, email is the best way to contact the instructor or teaching assistants outside of class-time. Emails to the professor will be answered within 24 hours – within 48 hours over weekends.

To discuss the content of the course or substantive questions about an assignment or mark, please schedule an appointment or drop by open office hours. Due to constraints of time, we cannot cover course material or discuss marking by email.

The instructor will hold office hours by appointment, as well as weekly drop-in office hours (see above).

The TAs will hold drop-in office hours before the papers are due and after they have been returned. These hours will be announced later in the semester.

Readings

Most readings will be from the assigned anthology:

Steven Cahn (ed.), *Political Philosophy, 3rd Edition* (Oxford 2015).

The book is available in the bookstore and will be on reserve in Robarts Library.

Precise reading assignments will be available under the Syllabus function on Blackboard.

The few writings not in the anthology be posted online on Blackboard.

<http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/online/Toolbox/Blackboard/>

If you have difficulty opening a file, please contact the instructor immediately by email.

Course Requirements

Assignment	Description	Provisional Due Date	% of Final Grade
Tutorial	Attendance, Participation, etc.	Every Thurs. starting in week 2	10%
Cumulative Final Exam	Short answer & essay	TBA	33%
1 st Paper	1200-1500 words	Feb. 25	25%
2 nd Paper	1800-2100 words	Mar. 24	32%

Lecture

Lecture attendance is expected, but not recorded. All material on the Final Exam will be covered in lecture. Lecture slides will be posted at least 12 hours prior to class.

Please do not engage in private conversation during the lectures. The TAs will keep tabs on any disruptive behavior and this will negatively impact the participation portion of your grade. Please turn your phones off during class and refrain from texting, sexting, or other fiddling with your phone.

You may record the lectures for your private use, but you may not share the recordings on the internet.

Tutorial Participation

Tutorial sections are for discussion and review of material covered in lecture, as well as for providing some guidance with the writing assignments.

Tutorial sections meet once a week, and attendance and participation in them is worth 10% of your grade. Your TA may also include additional requirements (like quizzes or short written responses).

You have one unexcused absence for section. After that, each absence automatically decreases this portion of your grade by $\frac{1}{2}$ point (out of a total of 10).

Your TA will grade your participation in tutorial on the basis of attentiveness and regular, thoughtful discussion that demonstrates engagement with the assigned texts. Your TA may also have additional requirements (like quizzes or writing responses). Routine and informed participation will generally earn 8 or 9 points.

Final Examination

There will be a cumulative exam during the final-exam period. The exam will most likely feature a combination of short-answer and essay questions. You will be supplied with a study guide no later than one week prior to the exam.

The final examination is scheduled and run by the Office of the Faculty Registrar (OFR) in the Final Exam Period. No test may occur in the Final Exam Period that is not scheduled by the OFR. Students who miss a final exam must petition to the Faculty through their College Registrar's Office for an opportunity to write a deferred exam.

Papers

Papers will be responses to assigned essay topics. These topics will be distributed at least two weeks prior to the due date along with some guidelines on writing the paper.

The TAs will tell their sections how they should turn their papers in (e.g., in hard copy, by email, etc.).

Marking

The final exam and papers will generally be marked by the TA leading your tutorial. If you have a question or problem about the marking, you should talk to your TA about it first. However, be aware that if you ask us to reconsider your mark, we may determine that the initial grade was either too low *or* too high.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

Unless otherwise instructed, you are advised not to do outside research for the papers. That said, any text taken verbatim from other sources must be quoted and cited. Similarly, paraphrases and the borrowing of ideas from other sources should also be cited. Plagiarism will be dealt with severely and may result in both failing the course and having the incident permanently recorded on your academic transcript. You may talk with other students about your papers, but you must do the actual writing yourself. You are encouraged to have friends or writing tutors read over your work to proofread and give you feedback.

For information on the University's policy concerning academic integrity and advice about how to avoid committing plagiarism, go to

<http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai/students>

Accessibility

Students who feel that they may need special accommodation for disabilities or their particular learning style need to speak with me in person or by email as soon as possible. Disabled students are also strongly encouraged to avail themselves of the services provided by the campus the Accessibility Service Office, including the provision of note-takers, transcribers, and sign-language interpreters. The Accessibility Services Office is located on the first floor of Robarts Library, 130 St. George St., or visit the Accessibility Services website at <http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as> for more information. In addition, you can call OISE Student Services at (416) 987-2277 or visit the OISE [Student Services](#) website.

Writing Resources

You are highly encouraged to utilize available writing centres.

The Philosophy Essay Clinic

<http://undergraduate.philosophy.utoronto.ca/philosophy-essay-clinic/>

St. George Campus Writing Centres

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres/arts-and-science>

Writing Centre Workshops

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-plus>

The Writing Centre website has also put together some useful advice on writing that you may be interested in:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice>

Finally, English Language Learners may find additional resources at:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/faqs/english-as-second-language>

<http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell>

Provisional Semester Schedule

See the “Syllabus” function on Blackboard for more detailed, and more up-to-date reading assignments.

All readings are in the Cahn anthology unless followed by (BB), in which case they will be posted on Blackboard on the “Syllabus” page.

1. Jan. 12	Introduction
2. Jan. 14	Aristotle, Selections from the <i>Ethics</i> and <i>Politics</i>
3. Jan. 19	Aristotle, Selections from the <i>Politics</i>
4. Jan. 21	Thomas Hobbes, Selections from <i>Leviathan</i>
5. Jan. 26	Thomas Hobbes, Selections from <i>Leviathan</i>
6. Jan. 28	John Locke, Selections from <i>Second Treatise</i>
7. Feb. 2	John Locke, Selections from <i>Second Treatise</i> and <i>Letter Concerning Toleration</i>

8. Feb. 4	Jean-Jacques Rousseau, <i>Discourse on the Origin of Inequality</i>
9. Feb. 9	Jean-Jacques Rousseau, <i>Discourse on the Origin of Inequality</i> and Selections from <i>Social Contract</i>
10. Feb. 11	Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Selections from <i>Social Contract</i>
11. Feb. 23	Adam Smith, Selections from <i>Wealth of Nations</i>
12. Feb. 25	G.W.F. Hegel, Selections from <i>Philosophy of Right</i> (BB)
Feb. 25	First Paper Due
13. Mar. 1	G.W.F. Hegel, Selections from <i>Philosophy of Right/Philosophy of Mind</i> (BB)
14. Mar. 3	Karl Marx, <i>1844 Manuscripts</i> ("Estranged Labor"); Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, <i>Manifesto of the Communist Party</i>
15. Mar. 8	Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, <i>Manifesto of the Communist Party</i> ; Marx, "Critique of the Gotha Programme" (BB)
16. Mar. 10	J.S. Mill, selections from <i>Utilitarianism</i> and <i>On Liberty</i>
17. Mar. 15	John Rawls, Selections from <i>A Theory of Justice</i>
18. Mar. 17	Robert Nozick, Selections from <i>Anarchy, State, and Utopia</i>
19. Mar. 22	John Rawls, Selections from <i>Political Liberalism</i> ; Michael Sandel, "The Procedural Republic and the Unencumbered Self"
20. Mar. 24	Martha Nussbaum, "Feminist Critique of Liberalism"
Mar. 24	Second Paper Due
21. Mar. 29	Iris Marion Young, "Five Faces of Oppression"
22. Mar. 31	Michael Walzer, "Membership," from <i>Spheres of Justice</i> (BB)
23. Apr. 4	Bernard Boxill, "Global Equality of Opportunity and National Integrity" (BB)
24. Apr. 6	Simon Caney, "Cosmopolitan Justice, Responsibility, and Global Climate Change" (BB)