

Phil 167 Contemporary Political Philosophy

Syllabus
Fall 2019
Time MWF 1:00-1:50 pm
Mandeville Center
Room B150

Andy Lamey
alamey@ucsd.edu
(858) 534-9111 (no voicemail)
Office: HSS 7017
Office Hours: T: 12:40-1:40 pm W 2:30-3:30 pm

1. Overview

This class investigates issues of justice through the prism of contemporary political philosophy. We will pay particular attention to issues of justice as they revolve around both questions of redistribution and representation. Questions of redistribution are addressed by theories of distributive justice, which address the question of whether or not the state should redistribute wealth. If not, why not? If so, based on what principles? Questions of representation address questions of identity in one form or another, and pertain to issues of immigration, culture and minority rights.

As part of this class students will spend four class sessions playing a role-immersion game. Students will play roles inspired by different perspectives in political philosophy. Working as parts of factions or as unaligned indeterminates they will work with and sometimes against one another to achieve their victory objective. During the game students will write an essay and give speeches from the point of view of their role.

The class assumes no background in philosophy and students who put in the necessary effort can do well. Students will do particularly well if they stay current with the weekly readings and actively participate in our game.

2. Assessment

A 2,000-word essay due 5:00 pm Tuesday October 22 (25%)

A 1,500-word in-game essay due before your major speech in either week nine or ten (will vary by student) (25%)

A 2000-word word essay due during exam week (25%)

Participation (15%)

Reading quizzes (10%)

3. Readings and Schedule

All readings will be available on Canvas.

0. Week of September 23: Intro to Phil 167

No reading.

1. Week of September 30: Limited Government

Nozick, Robert. Distributive Justice. *Anarchy State and Utopia* (New York: Basic Books, 1974): 149-82.*

*Note: this reading contains an optional section that students do NOT have to read before class: "Sen's Argument," 164-66.

Hayek, Friedrich (1945). The Use of Knowledge in Society. *The American Economic Review*, 35/4: 519-530.

Hayek, Friedrich (1973). "Cosmos and Taxis." *Law, Legislation and Liberty: Volume I* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press), 35-54.*

*Note: this reading contains two optional sections that students do NOT have to read before class: "Spontaneous Orders in Nature," 39-41 and "The Terms 'Organism' and 'Organization'" 52-54.

2. Week of October 7: Uniform Liberalism

Rawls, John. A Theory of Justice. George Sher (ed.) *Moral Philosophy: Selected Readings* (San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1987), 453-72.

Dworkin, Ronald. Equality. *Justice For Hedgehogs* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2011), 351-64.

3. Week of October 14: Difference Liberalism

Kymlicka, Will. Equality for Minority Cultures. *Liberalism, Community and Culture* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1989): 182-200.

Patten, Alan. Equal Recognition. *Equal Recognition: The Moral Foundations of Minority Rights*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2014): 149-85.*

*Note: this reading contains two optional sections that students do NOT have to read before class: "The Objection From Expensive Taste," 177-82 and "Is Full Proceduralism Enough?" 182-85.

4. Week of October 21: Utilitarianism and the Liberalism of Fear

John Stuart Mill. What Utilitarianism Is. *On Liberty and Utilitarianism* (London: David Campbell, 1992): 117-136.

Judith Shklar. The Liberalism of Fear. *Liberalism and the Moral Life*, Nancy Rosenblum ed. (Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1989), 21-38.

First Essay due Tuesday October 22 5:00 pm.

5: Week of October 28: The Capabilities Approach

Martha Nussbaum. Capabilities as Fundamental Entitlements: Sen and Social Justice. *Feminist Economics* 9.2-3 (2003), 33-59.

Amartya Sen. Capabilities and Resources. *The Idea of Justice* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2009), 253-68.

6. Week of November 4: Luck Egalitarianism and Democratic Equality

Richard Arneson. Equality and Equal Opportunity for Welfare. *Philosophical Studies* 56/1 (1989): 77-93.

Elizabeth Anderson, What is the Point of Equality?. *Political Philosophy in the Twenty-first Century: Essential Essays*. Steven Kahn and Robert Talisse, eds. (Routledge, New York, 2013), 31-56.

7. Week of November 11: Institutional Luck Egalitarianism and Feminism

K. C. Tan, A Defense of Luck Egalitarianism. *The Journal of Philosophy*, 105/11 (2008), 665-690.

Susan Moller Okin. Toward a Humanist Justice. *Justice, Gender and the Family* (New York: Basic Books, 1989), 170-86.

8. Week of November 18: Prioritarianism and Classical Liberalism

Derek Parfit. Equality and Priority. *Ratio* 10/3 (1997): 202-221.

Chandran Kukathas. The Cultural Construction of Society (excerpt), *The Liberal Archipelago: A Theory of Diversity and Freedom* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003) 211-45.

9. Week of November 25: Game week.

No Readings.

No Class Friday (Thanksgiving).

In-game essays due before major speeches.

10. Week of December 2: Game Continued and Post Mortem.

In-game essays due before major speeches.

No Reading

Exam-Essay: Due During Week of December 11

4. General Information

4a Office Hours

I keep both normal and electronic office hours. Drop by in person or contact me via Skype (ID: andy_lamey) or Facetime (ID: alamey@ucsd.edu). I am also available immediately after class or by appointment. I am always happy to discuss any aspect of this course with you.

4b Email Policy

I am happy to reply to emails sent from UCSD email addresses. I do not reply to emails from non-UCSD addresses. Please note that there are two subjects I do not discuss by email, even if they are sent from a UCSD account. These are:

a) Requests for information about an exam that arrive in the 24-hour period immediately preceding the exam.

b) Requests to adjust your final class grade. If you have an issue with your grade please make an appointment to discuss it during my office hour next quarter. If you are a graduating senior let me know and we will make alternative arrangements.

4c Submission

All essays will be submitted electronically. Hard copies are not required.

4d One-time Discretionary Extensions for First Essays

I can grant each student one extension of up to 48 hours without requiring a medical certificate or other documentation for the first essay. In order to grant such an extension I need to receive your request before noon on the day the assessment in question is due. Email is fine, but please note that UCSD's email servers sometimes go down, and students are advised not to leave their requests to the last minute. Requests received after noon on the due date will require documentation, as will requests for extensions longer than 48 hours. Please note that if you receive an extension your paper may be returned a few days after those that were completed on time.

Note that the discretionary extension is only possible for the first essay. In-game

essays and any essays due during the exam period have a hard due date, and extensions will require medical or similar documentation.

4e Late Work

For all assignments handed in after the due date and without an extension, a five percent penalty applies for the first day of the missed deadline. After that, a subsequent penalty of two percent per day will be applied for the next thirteen calendar days after the due date (including Saturdays and Sundays). No assignment can be accepted after more than fourteen calendar days except in exceptional circumstances and in consultation with your professor. Assignments that are handed in late without an extension will be graded and returned after those that were completed on time and will not receive comments.

4 Accommodation for Disability

Students requesting accommodations for this course due to a disability must provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) which is located in University Center 202 behind Center Hall. Students are required to present their AFA letters to Faculty (please make arrangements to contact me privately) and to the OSD Liaison in the department in advance so that accommodations may be arranged. Contact the OSD for further information: 858.534.4382 (phone), osd@ucsd.edu (email), disabilities.ucsd.edu (web)

4g Academic Integrity

Integrity of scholarship is essential for an academic community. The University expects that both faculty and students will honor this principle and in so doing protect the validity of University intellectual work. For students, this means that all academic work will be done by the individual to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind. More information about UCSD's policy on academic integrity is available at <http://senate.ucsd.edu/Operating-Procedures/Senate-Manual/appendices/2>

4h Lecture Slides

Lecture slides will be made available on TED.

4i Technology in the Classroom

Please note that until further notice, laptops and tablets are not permitted in lecture. Students may not record (audio or video) in this class except in accordance with ADA accommodations. Any recordings made in connection with a disability accommodation are for the student's personal academic use only and may not be distributed in any manner to any other individual.

4j Waitlist

Students will be admitted to this class according to their place on the waitlist.

4k Exams

This class may not have a final exam. But if it does, all students except those registered with the OSD will be required to take the exam on the scheduled day and time.