

26:034
Fall 2009

Philosophy and the Just Society: Fall 2009
Discussion Section: 04 (3083 LIB)

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Course Description:

This is a *discussion* section for Philosophy and the Just Society. Come to class prepared to discuss various issues that arise out of both the readings and the MW lectures (this means you should come to class having already *carefully* read the assigned readings). I want to stress that I will NOT lecture, so be prepared to talk to one another. Talking with one other will not only help you to understand the material but it will also make class more enjoyable. As for the content of the course, this course examines the development of various theories of the nature of individuals and governments, and the obligations, if any, they have to each other. When possible, these theories are placed within the larger context of the historical and intellectual climate in which they were expressed. This course fulfills the Historical Perspectives GE category.

Course Requirements:

Mid-term (near the middle of October) – 28% of final grade

Two-hour final exam on December 17th @ 7:30 a.m. – 40% of final grade

5-7 page paper (Due date TBA) – 28% of final grade

- I reserve the right to use www.turnitin.com

- You *must* submit your term paper both in hardcopy to me on the due date, and through the drop box on ICON

Pop quizzes – 4% of final grade

Note: Both exams must be taken and a paper must be submitted in order to pass the course. Plagiarism will result in automatic failure. “+” and “-“ grades will be used. Attendance, participation (in the discussion section), and improvement will be taken into account in deciding whether or not to add 1/3 of a grade to a student's final grade.

Required Materials:

Proteus Reader 3rd edition

- Which contains: Plato's The Republic, Hobbes's Leviathan, Rousseau's The Social Contract, and Mill's On Liberty and Utilitarianism
- Available at the IMU bookstore

Course Outline:

I. Introduction

(3 - 5 lectures)

II. Plato, *The Republic*, Books I-IV, V (449-474), and VIII-IX

(approx. 9 lectures)

III. Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Part I, Chapters X-XVI, and Part II, Chapters XVII-XXI.

(5 - 6 lectures)

IV. Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, Books I, II and III (secs. I-VIII)

(3 - 4 lectures)

V. Mill, *On Liberty*, and Chapters I and II of *Utilitarianism*.

(6 lectures)

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Policy and Procedures

(NOTE: These CLAS policy statements have been summarized from the web pages of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.)

Administrative Home

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administration home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall or see the CLAS Student Academic Handbook [www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook/index.shtml]

CLAS Final Examination Policies

Final exams may be offered only during finals week. No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes. Students should not ask their instructor to reschedule a final exam since the College does not permit rescheduling of a final exam once the semester has begun. Questions should be addressed to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum.

Academic Fraud

Plagiarism and any other activities that result when students present work that is not their own are academic fraud. Academic Fraud is a serious matter and is reported to the departmental DEO and DEOs decide on appropriate consequences at the departmental level while the Associate Dean enforces additional consequences at the collegiate level. See the Student Academic Handbook.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit the instructor, then the course supervisor, and then the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident. See the CLAS Student Academic Handbook.

Accommodations for Disabilities

A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet privately with the course instructor to make particular arrangements. See www.uiowa.edu/~sds/ for more information

Understanding Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold the mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment at www.uiowa.edu/~eod/policies/sexual-harassment-guide/index.html for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather

In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over (Operations Manual, Part IV, 16. See items e, h, and i.)

