

<b>DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR: PH 3022 SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY</b>	
(Updated Fall 2022)	<b>UK LEVEL 5</b> <b>UK CREDITS: 15</b> <b>US CREDITS: 3/0/3</b>
<b>PREREQUISITES:</b>	None.
<b>CATALOG DESCRIPTION:</b>	A systematic introduction to major issues in social and political thought: the origin and nature of political authority, individual freedom and the limits of state intervention, content and ground of individual rights, gender and sexuality, global justice. Emphasis on original texts in the modern Western tradition.
<b>RATIONALE:</b>	. The object of this course is to clarify concepts and principles underlying social and political views and to engage in critical examination of associated theses and arguments. As such, this course addresses the interests of political scientists, sociologists, economists, historians, philosophers as well as of students of the humanities at large.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demonstrate a competent understanding of central concepts of social and political discourse such as political authority, political obligation, freedom, coercion, rights, equality, justice.</li> <li>2. Examine the most influential trends in social and political thought such as anarchism, liberalism, libertarianism, egalitarianism, marxism, socialism, communitarianism, feminism, and evaluate their arguments.</li> <li>3. Apply and experiment with theoretical principles to the exploration of concrete social and political problems of the present.</li> <li>4. Critically evaluate central theories or issues and relevant arguments in the fields of social and political philosophy.</li> </ol>
<b>METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:</b>	In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Classes consist of lectures and class discussions of primary sources as well as of contemporary articles assigned by the lecturer.</li> <li>- Office hours: Students are encouraged to make full use of the office hours of their lecturer, where they can discuss the course material.</li> <li>- Use of a Blackboard site, where lecturers can post lecture notes assignment instructions, timely announcements, as well as additional resources.</li> </ul>

- Use of library facilities: Students are encouraged to make use of the library facilities for their term paper as well as for preparation for the final exam.

**ASSESSMENT:**

**Summative:**

First Assessment: Midterm Examination (take-home assessment)	40%
Final Assessment: Research Paper (2,500 words)	60%

**Formative:**

Class presentation (individual or group)/ or home assignment	0%

The formative assessment aims at helping students to prepare for the Research Paper.  
 The First Assessment tests Learning Outcomes 1 and 2.  
 The Final Assessment tests Learning Outcomes 1, 3 and 4.

**INDICATIVE READING:**

**REQUIRED READING:**

Christman, John. Social and Political Philosophy: A contemporary introduction. London: Routledge, 2017.

**RECOMMENDED READING:**

Altman, Andrew & Wellman, Christopher Heath, A Liberal Theory of International Justice. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Brody, Sher, Social and Political Philosophy (Contemporary Readings). U.S.A.: Harcourt Brace College Publishers, 1999.

Brooks, Thom (ed.), Global Justice and International Affairs, Brill, 2011.

Carver, Terrell (ed.), The Cambridge Companion to Marx. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991.

Dworkin, Ronald, Taking Rights Seriously. Cambridge Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1977.

Elshtain, Jean Bethke, Public Man, Private Women: Women in Social and Political Thought. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1981.

Filotas, Zoi, Aristotle and the Ethics of Difference, Friendship and Equality. London: Bloomsbury Publishing Company, 2021.

Gaus, Gerald & D'Agostino, Fred (eds.). The Routledge Companion to Social and Political Philosophy. 2012.

Lang, Anthony F. Jr. (ed.), Political Theory and International Affairs (Hans J Morgenthau on Aristotle's Politics), Praeger, 2004.

MacIntyre, Alasdair, After Virtue. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 1981.

\_\_\_\_\_, Whose Justice? Which Rationality? Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 1987.

Molloy, Sean, "Aristotle, Epicurus, Morgenthau and the Political Ethics of the Lesser Evil", *Journal of International Political Theory* 5:1, 94-112, 2009.

Narveson, Jan, "Libertarianism vs. Marxism: Reflections on G.A. Cohen's *Self-Ownership, Freedom and Equality*", *Journal of Ethics* 2 (1998), 1-26.

Nielsen, Kai, Equality and Liberty: A Defense of Radical Egalitarianism, Totowa, NJ: Rowman and Allanheld, 1985.

Nozick, Robert, Anarchy, State and Utopia. BasicBooks, 1974.

Nussbaum, Martha and Amartya Sen (eds.), The Quality of Life. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1993.

Pojman, Louis P, Global Political Philosophy. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2003.

Rawls, John, A Theory of Justice. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971.

Robert, John, Capitalism and the Limits of Desire. London: Bloomsbury, 2021.

Solomon, Robert C., & Murphy Marc C., What is Justice: Classic and Contemporary Readings. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000.

Stewart, Robert M., ed. Readings in Social and Political Philosophy. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996.

	<p>Schmidt, Richard. <u>An Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy: A Question-Based Approach</u>. Rowman &amp; Littlefield Publishers, 2009.</p> <p>Strauss, Leo and Joseph Cropsey, eds. <u>History of Political Philosophy</u>. Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press, 1987.</p> <p>Zeller, Marc, "Plato on International Relations", <i>The Philosophical Forum</i>, vol.48.3, 325-339, 2017.</p>
<p><b>INDICATIVE MATERIAL:</b> (e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)</p>	<p><b>RECOMMENDED MATERIAL:</b></p> <p><i>Ethics</i> <i>Journal of Political Philosophy</i> <i>Philosophical Review</i> <i>Philosophy and Public Affairs</i> <i>Social Philosophy</i> <i>Social Philosophy and Policy</i> <i>The Journal of Ethics</i></p>
<p><b>COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:</b></p>	<p>Research paper in professional English.</p>
<p><b>SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:</b></p>	<p>Microsoft Word</p>
<p><b>WWW RESOURCES:</b></p>	<p><a href="http://plato.stanford.edu/">http://plato.stanford.edu/</a> <a href="http://www.utm.edu/research/iep">http://www.utm.edu/research/iep</a></p>
<p><b>INDICATIVE CONTENT:</b></p>	<p>1. INTRODUCTION The liberal democratic paradigm Preliminaries I: Method Preliminaries II: Moral theory and political philosophy</p> <p>2. Social Philosophy and the Road to the Political What is Social Philosophy A Selection of issues in Social Philosophy From Social Criticism to Political Philosophy PART I: BASIC ISSUES WITHIN THE LIBERAL PARADIGM</p> <p>3. The problem of political authority Political Thought in Plato and Aristotle The social contract tradition Hobbes's social contract: Mechanism, egoism, and rationality Locke: Reason, morality, and freedom Lessons from Rousseau and Kant From consent to legitimacy</p> <p>4. Distributive justice Distributive justice and equality Libertarianism Rawlsian distributive justice Varieties of egalitarianism</p> <p>5. Toleration, Pluralism, and the Foundations of Liberalism</p>

PART II: CRITIQUE OF THE LIBERAL PARADIGM:  
CHALLENGES AND DEPARTURES

6. Conservatism, Communitarianism, and the Social  
Conception of the Self

Conservatism

Communitarianism

Liberalism, freedom, and culture

7. Race and the politics of identity

Racism and the Structure of Liberalism

Liberalism, Freedom and Culture

8. Feminism, Gender and Sexuality

Feminism

Sexuality and Gender Identity

Identity, Injustice, and Democracy

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9. Marxism and Radical Critique

10. Beyond the Nation State

Cosmopolitanism and Nationalism

Human Rights, Global Justice

Injustice and Borders: Immigration

Epilogue: The Hope of Liberalism?