

PHIL 1040 – INDIVIDUAL and SOCIETY
Spring 2020
Tues/Thurs

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Office Hours: Thursdays, 2:30-4:30pm
and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course provides an introduction to social and political philosophy. This broad area of thought examines, attempts to understand, and advocates for different kinds of relationships between individuals, political structures, and social norms. We begin by looking at ideas about democratic sociopolitical ideologies its dominant contemporary form, Liberalism. From there, we will get to know several ideologies that are critical of liberalism, including: conservatism, communitarianism, socialism, communism, fascism, and post-Marxist approaches. We then proceed to explore politics of liberation oriented around social categories such as: gender, sex, sexuality, race. The course concludes by exploring the relationships between global and local structures, paying particular attention to questions of climate change and sustainable living on planet Earth.

The purpose of this course is not to prescribe a particular philosophy but rather to help you understand the logics of different social and political structures along with varying understandings of the individual's relationship to those structures. Throughout the course, we will ask how philosophy might provide a foundation for productive discussion, dialogue, and debate.

WHAT TO EXPECT

This course has a significant discussion component. Topics covered are controversial, and thoughtful intelligent people have held opposing views. We will have the opportunity to review several contrasting positions, but, ultimately, you are expected to engage the issues and form your own views. Your learning in this course will depend on your willingness to think critically and formulate your own views so that you can improve your ability to express them clearly and convincingly. ***You should expect that your views will be challenged and be willing to challenge the views of others.*** At the same time, it will be extremely important to ***respect each other*** in discussions. It is important to distinguish between the person offering a particular view and the view itself. The latter may be criticized, but not the former.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Technology & Classroom Behavior. Please refrain from behavior that is distracting or interferes with the learning of others, such as using electronics or talking over others. The bulk of our class time will be spent in large group discussion, which requires your active participation. To facilitate this, I strongly discourage the use of electronics (laptops, cellphones, tablets) in the classroom. Of course, there are many legit reasons why you might want to use technology – e.g. your textbook is only available to you on an ereader, you have a disability, you are a parent who needs to keep a cell phone on for a child emergency. Basically, use your common sense and be present for the duration of the class

Absences and Late Work. Absences for illness, or the serious illness or death of an immediate family member may be excused with the appropriate documentation, e.g. a doctor's note, or with my advance approval. Please talk to me as soon as practicably possible if you know that you will be missing a class. Late assignments will be accepted without deduction only on *sufficient prior* arrangement with me.

Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct. Paraphrasing or quoting another's work without citing the source is a form of academic misconduct. Even inadvertent or unintentional misuse or appropriation of another's work (such as relying heavily on source material that is not expressly acknowledged) is considered plagiarism. All work for this course must be completed by the person submitting it for evaluation. Anyone found guilty of plagiarism, cheating, forgery, falsification, or other forms of academic dishonesty will fail the course.

If you have any questions about using and citing sources, you are expected to ask for clarification. You plagiarize, you fail. Seriously. When in doubt, just ask me. I am here to help! For useful information about plagiarism, see: <http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/definition.html>

UCCSS expects all students to conduct themselves as honest, responsible and law-abiding members of the academic community and to respect the rights of other students, members of the faculty and staff and the public to use, enjoy and participate in the University programs and facilities. For additional information, see UCCS's Student Conduct Code at: <https://www.uccs.edu/dos/student-conduct>

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities. If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, please register with Disability Services and provide them with documentation of your disability. They will work with you to determine what accommodations are appropriate for your situation. To avoid any delay, you should contact Disability Services as soon as possible. They are located in Main Hall room 105; their phone number is 719-255-3354, and their email is dservice@uccs.edu

Student Educational Records. All records related to this course are confidential and will not be shared with anyone, including parents, without a signed, written release. If you wish to have information from your records shared with others, you must provide written request/authorization to the office/department. Before giving such authorization, you should understand the purpose of the release and to whom and for how long the information is authorized for release.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- (1) *Social and Political Philosophy: A Contemporary Introduction*. John Christman, 2nd Edition, Routledge 2018.
- (2) *Ideals and Ideologies: A Reader*. Edited by Terence Ball, Richard Dagger, and Daniel I. O'Neill.
- (3) Additional articles will be available on Canvas

Nota Bene! Some of the readings for this course are *challenging*. Do not be surprised if you don't immediately understand part of a reading. Part of the job of philosophers is to try to make sense of what an author is saying, and we will work together to do this. You should complete the readings for the week *before* they are discussed in class, although it will often be helpful to re-read them afterwards as well. See the attached course schedule for reading assignments.

EVALUATION CRITERIA and GRADES

Course Assignments

- 25% Attendance and Participation, including in-class assignments
- 25% Quizzes on Canvas (4 total)
- 25% Take-Home Midterm
- 25% Pecha Kucha Final Presentation

Grading Scale

A	100-94	C	76-74
A-	93-90	C-	73-70
B+	89-87	D+	69-67
B	86-84	D	66-64
B-	83-80	D-	63-61
C+	79-77	F	60-0

COURSE CALENDAR

WEEK 1 INTRODUCTION to SOCIAL & POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Tuesday
January 21 Review syllabus and expectations.

Thursday
January 23 Chris Mooney's "Made-up Minds" (Canvas)
"Ideology: The Career of a Concept" in *Ideals and Ideologies* (pp3-9)

WEEK 2 DEMOCRACY and the INDIVIDUAL

Tuesday
January 28 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*.
Pericles, "Funeral Oration" (pp. 18-21)
Aristotle, "Democratic Judgment and the 'Middling' Constitution" (pp. 24-27)
John Adams "What is a Republic?" (pp. 34-37)
Bill of Rights of the United States (pp. 40)

Thursday
January 30 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
Alexis de Tocqueville's "Democracy and Equality" (pp42-48)
John Stuart Mill, "Democratic Participation and Political Education" (pp50-55)
A. Sullivan, "Democracies End When They Are Too Democratic" (pp62-70)
Timothy Egan, "The Dumbed Down Democracy" (pp. 72-73)

WEEK 3 LIBERALISM and ITS DIVISIONS

Tuesday
February 4 Excerpts from Chapters 1-3 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
"The Liberal Democratic Paradigm" (pp. 5-7)
"What is Social Philosophy" (pp. 22-25)
"A Selection of Issues in Social Philosophy" (25-37)
"The Social Contract Tradition" (pp. 46-48)
"Locke: Reason, Morality, and Freedom" (pp. 60-65)
"Lessons from Rousseau and Kant" (pp. 65-69)
"From Consent to Legitimacy" (pp. 69-73)

Thursday
February 6 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
Adam Smith's "Private Profit, Public Good" (pp. 116-117)
John Stuart Mill's "Liberty and Individuality" (pp. 124-129)
T.H. Greene's "Liberalism and Positive Freedom" (pp. 136-138)
Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Commonwealth Club Address" (pp. 140-145)
Lyndon B. Johnson's speech at Howard University, (pp. p.148-151)

WEEK 4 LIBERALISM and ITS DIVISIONS cont.

- Tuesday
February 11** excerpts from Chapter 4 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
 "Distributive Justice and Equality" (pp. 78-82)
 "Libertarianism" (pp. 83-89)
- Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
 Paul Krugman's "The Conscience of a Liberal" (pp. 154-158)
 Donald Allen's "Paternalism vs. Democracy" (pp. 160-164)
- Thursday
February 13** Excerpts from Chapter 5 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
 "The Canons of Liberalism" (pp. 112-119)
 "Liberalism, Public Discourse, and Democracy" (pp. 131-133)

Quiz #1 in Canvas opens at 5:30pm

WEEK 5 INTERLUDE: FULL ECOLOGY

- Tuesday
February 18** draft excerpt from *Full Ecology: Reclaiming Human Nature* (Canvas)
 In-class guest speakers and discussants, Mary Clare and Gary Ferguson

*Today's class goes with the materials in week 14.
This is the only date that Gary and Mary are in town this semester.*

Quiz #1 due in Canvas by 11:59pm

CONSERVATISM and COMMUNITARIANISM

- Thursday
February 20** Excerpts from Chapter 6 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
 "Conservatism" (pp. 142-146)
 "Communitarianism" (pp. 146-158)
- Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
 Burke's "Society, Reverence, and the 'True Natural Aristocracy'" (pp. 182-187)
 Michael Oakeshott's "On Being Conservative" (pp. 194-201)
 Ronald Reagan's "Modern American Conservatism" (pp. 212-218)
 Boot and Brooks' "Conservatives Assess Trump" (pp. 224-228)

WEEK 6 SOCIALISM and COMMUNISM FOUNDATIONS

**Tuesday
February 25** Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
More's "Utopia" (pp. 232-237)
Owen's "Address to the Inhabitants of New Lanark" (pp. 240-242)
Marx and Engels' "Communist Manifesto" (pp. 244-255)
Marx's "On the Materialist Conception of History" (pp. 258)

**Thursday
February 27** Excerpts from Chapter 9 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
"The Legacy of Marx and Marxism" (pp. 209-221)
Louis Menand's "Karl Marx, Yesterday and Today" (Canvas)

Receive Midterm Prompt.

WEEK 7 SOCIALISM and COMMUNISM AFTER MARX

**Tuesday
March 3** Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
Lenin's "Revisionism, Imperialism, and Revolution" (pp. 270-283)
Trotsky's "The Permanent Revolution" (pp. 286-289)
Mao Zedong's "On the People's Democratic Dictatorship" (pp. 292-298)

**Thursday
March 5** Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
Bakunin's "Anarcho-Communism vs. Marxism" (pp. 302-303)
Emma Goldman's "Anarchism: What It Really Stands For" (pp. 306-313)
Debs "Speech to the Conference for Progressive Political Action" (pp. 316-320)
Sanders "On Democratic Socialism in the United States" (pp. 322-326)

Quiz #2 in Canvas opens at 5:30pm

WEEK 8 CRITICAL THEORY AFTER MARX

**Tuesday
March 10** Stephen Metcalf's "Neoliberalism: The Idea that Swallowed the World" (Canvas)
Stuart Walton's "Theory from the Ruins" (Canvas)
Additional readings TBA

Quiz #2 due in Canvas by 11:59pm

**Thursday
March 12** Excerpts from Chapter 9 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
"Post-Modern Departures" (pp. 221-228)
Additional readings TBA

WEEK 9 FASCISM

**Tuesday
March 17** Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
 Mussolini's "The Doctrine of Fascism" (pp. 338-345)
 Rocco's "Political Theory of Fascism" (pp. 348-352)
 Robert Kagan's "This is How Fascism Comes to America" (pp. 370-371)

**Thursday
March 19** **No class. Work on your midterms.**

**Friday
March 20** **Midterm due in Canvas by 11:59pm on Friday, March 20th**

WEEK 10 SPRING BREAK

March 23-27 😊😊😊😊😊😊😊😊😊😊 **NO CLASSES** 😊😊😊😊😊😊😊😊😊😊

WEEK 11 GENDER and SEX

**Tuesday
March 31** Excerpts from Chapter 8 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
 "Feminism" (pp. 186-199)

 Excerpt from *Ideals and Ideologies*
 Wollstonecraft's "Vindication of the Rights of Woman" (pp. 401-406)

 Simone de Beauvoir's "Introduction" to *The Second Sex* (Canvas) (19pp)

**Thursday
April 2** Excerpt from *Ideals and Ideologies*
 bell hooks's "Feminism is for Everybody" (pp. 422-426)
 Livingstone's "The Task Ahead for Feminism" (pp. 428-430)

 In-class workshop providing instruction for Pecha Kucha presentations

WEEK 12 FEMINIST PHILOSOPHY, SCIENCE STUDIES and SEXUALITY

**Tuesday
April 7** Excerpts from Chapter 8 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
 "Sexuality and Gender Identity" (pp. 199-203)

 Rosi Braidotti's "Feminist Philosophies" (Canvas) (15pp)

 "FAQ's About Feminist Science Studies" from the Association of American
 Colleges and Universities (Canvas) (20 double-spaced pages)

 Optional => Emily Martin's "Egg and Sperm: How Science Has Constructed a
 Romance Based on Stereotypical Male-Female Roles" (Canvas) (17pp)

**Thursday
April 9** Anne Fausto-Sterling's "The Five Sexes: Why Male and Female Are Not Enough"
 (Canvas) (4pp)

 Anne Fausto-Sterling's "The Five Sexes, Revisited" (Canvas) (4pp)

 Jonathan Katz's "Invention of Heterosexuality" (Canvas) (10pp)

Quiz #3 in Canvas opens at 5:30pm

WEEK 13 POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY and RACE

**Tuesday
April 14** Excerpts from Chapter 7 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
 "Critical Race Theory" (pp. 170-179)
 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
 Frederick Douglass's "What to the Slave Is the 4th of July?" (pp. 378-381)
 Cornel West's "Race Matters" (pp. 384-386)

Quiz #3 due in Canvas by 11:59pm

**Thursday
April 16** Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
 Erik Loomis's "A New Chapter in the Black Liberation Movement" (pp. 388-390)
 Black Lives Matter, "A Vision for Black Lives" (pp. 392-399)
 Vine Deloria's "On Liberation" (pp. 442-446)

WEEK 14 POLITICAL THEORY and ECOLOGY

- Tuesday
April 21** Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
 Thiele's "Sustainability in the Age of Ecology" (pp. 470-477)
 Wendell Berry's "Getting Along with Nature" (pp. 480-486)
 Val Plumwood's "Feminism and the Mastery of Nature" (pp. 488-493)
 James Cones's "Whose Earth Is It, Anyway?" (p. 496-501)
- Thursday
April 23** Nicola Davison's "The Anthropocene Epoch" (Canvas)
 Stacy Alaimo's "Sustainable This, Sustainable That: New Materialisms,
 "Posthumanism, and Unknown Futures" (Canvas)
 Nicholas Beuret's "Review of Isabelle Stengers, *In Catastrophic Times*" (Canvas)

WEEK 15 NATIONALISM and COSMOPOLITANISM

- Tuesday
April 28** Chapter 10 of *Social and Political Philosophy* (pp. 234-249)
- Thursday
April 30** Final In-Class Presentations
 Quiz #4 in Canvas opens at 5:30pm

WEEK 16 FINAL PRESENTATIONS

- Tuesday
May 5** Final In-Class Presentations
 Quiz #4 due in Canvas by 11:59pm
- Thursday
May 7** Final In-Class Presentations
- Thursday
May 14** **FINALS WEEK**
 8:00-10:00am Final In-Class Presentations