



Academic Year 2019-2020

Syllabus

European Thought and Global Justice (12 CFU)

1st module: Prof. Lorenzo Perilli

2nd module: Prof. Lorenzo Pecchi

Course Description

The Course is divided in two modules: European Thought and Global Justice.

The first module aims at providing students with a common background about the origin and development of the most important features peculiar to European thought, and at giving them the intellectual instruments to understand the issues which make Europe different from, or similar to, other cultures. Comparative issues with Chinese thought will also be touched upon. Students will gain knowledge of the foundations and conceptual base of western political systems (democracy), science, law, philosophy, ethics, and other issues, in their mutual relation.

The second module tries to answer to the following question: what do we owe to each other? In looking for plausible answers, we will first study the main contemporary theories of justice, namely, utilitarianism, libertarianism, contractualism and communitarianism which find their roots in the political philosophies of Aristotle, Locke, Hobbes, Hume, Kant, Bentham and Mill. The current political debate in the Western democracies largely reflects these theories and views although the main actors involved do not always have full awareness of it. An inquire into our duties is interested mainly in identifying and justifying those principles of justice that guide our actions and shape and design our institutions. Since the focus of this course is on global justice our concern is to understand how individuals and states ought to conduct themselves in relation to others on the world stage. In particular we will test the theories of justice in relation to issues such as world poverty, global inequalities, immigration and climate change.

Teaching Method – 1st module.

Taught class, lectures delivered by the Professor will be the main feature. Active discussion with students will also be part of the teaching activity. Students might be asked to write unannounced short essays in class on topics dealt with in the previous lessons.

Schedule of Topics

Topic 1	The birth and first development of democracy as a political system.
Topic 2	The method of scientific research and the notion of science. The origin of the axiomatic-deductive method.
Topic 3	The role of religion in society and its competitiveness towards rational thought.
Topic 4	Inference, induction, deduction.
Topic 5	Individual, collectivity, community: rights, duties, obligations.

Textbook and Materials

C. Ginzburg, *Clues: Roots of a Scientific Paradigm*, in C. Ginzburg, *Clues, myth and the historical paradigm*, Johns Hopkins University Press 1989, pp. 96-125; Z. Bauman, *Europe. An unfinished adventure*, Cambridge 2004; S. Weil, *The Need for Roots*, London 1952 (part I and other selected pages); Selected pages from G.E.R. Lloyd–N. Sivin, *The way and the word. Science and medicine in ancient China and Greece*, Yale 2003. Further material will be made available during the class.

Extra reading matter: R. Kapuscinski, *Travels with Herodotus*, Knopf, New York 2004.

Assessment

Attendance and participation to classroom activity: 25%; final exam: 75%.

At the end of the lecture period, a final written examination on topics 1 to 5 is given. Attendance to the final examination is compulsory in order to pass the exam. Students who fail the final examination will need to give a new complete examination in different exam dates of the year.

Attendance is compulsory.

Office hours

Students can speak with the Professor after each lesson or they can set up a meeting by writing an e-mail to lorenzo.perilli@uniroma2.it

Teaching Method – 2st module

Students are expected to read the material for every class and participate in every lecture.

Schedule of Topics

Topic 1	Introduction to moral theories
Topic 2	Utilitarianism
Topic 3	Libertarianism
Topic 4	Contractualism (Rawls)
Topic 5	Equalization of endowments and capabilities
Topic 6	Communitarianism and Republicanism
Topic 7	Cosmopolitanism vs. Social Liberalism
Topic 8	World poverty and global inequality
Topic 9	Borders: immigration and territory
Topic 10	Climate change justice

Textbook and Materials

The course's reference books are *Michael J. Sandel, Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?*, Penguin Group, 2009 and *Kok-Chor Tan, What is This Thing Called Global Justice?*, Routledge 2017 which cover large part of the above topics, however students are required to read selected articles and excerpts from the following books:

Beitz , Political Theories and International Relations
Dworkin, Sovereign Virtue
Dworkin (2), Is Democracy Possible Here?
Friedman, Free to Choose
Hayeck, The Constitution of Liberty
Kant, (1) Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals
Kant (2) Perpetual Peace: a Philosophical Sketch
MacIntyre, After Virtue
Mill, Utilitarianism
Miller, Citizenship and National Identity
Mollendorf, Cosmopolitan Justice
Moss, Climate Change and Social Justice
Nozick, Anarchy, State and Utopia
Nussbaum, Creating capabilities
Pettit, Just Freedom
Pogge, World Poverty and Human Rights
Rawls (1), A Theory of Justice
Rawls (2), Political Liberalism
Rawls (3), The Law of Peoples
Rawls (4), Justice as Fairness

Rothbard, For a New Liberty - The Libertarian Manifesto
Sandel (1), Justice
Sandel (2), Liberalism and the Limits of Justice
Sen, Inequality Reexamined
Singer (1), Famine, Affluent, and Morality
Singer (2), Utilitarianism: A Very Short Introduction
Singer (3), Practical Ethics
Singer (4), One World
Singer (5), The Life You Can Save
Taylor, Philosophical Papers 2
Walzer, Spheres of Justice

Course Outlines

1. Introduction to moral theories

Lichtenberg, Negative Duties, Positive Duties, and the New Harms
Singer, Famine, Affluence, and Morality

2. Utilitarianism

Sandel (1), Ch. 2
(* Mill,
Singer (2), Ch. 1, 2 & 3
The History of Utilitarianism – Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (plato.stanford.edu)

3. Libertarianism

Sandel (1), Ch. 3
Rothbard, Ch. 2
Friedman, Ch. 1 & 5
Nozick, pp. 149 –182
Hayek, Ch. 6
Libertarianism – Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy

4. Political Liberalism

Sandel, Ch. 4 – 5
(* Kant (1),
Rawls (1), Ch. 2 (sec. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14), Ch. 3 (sec. 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25), Ch.4 (sec.40)
Rawls (2), Introduction
Rawls (4), Part 1
Liberalism – Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy

5. Equalization of Endowments and Capabilities

Dworkin, Ch.1 & 2
Dworkin, Ch.1 & §
Sen, Ch.1, 2, & 3
Nussbaum, Ch.2

6. Communitarianism & Republicanism

Sandel (1), Ch. 8
Sandel (2), Introduction, Ch. 1
McIntyre, Ch. 15 – 16
Miller, Ch. 6
Taylor, Ch. 7
Walzer, Ch.1 – 2 – 3
Pettit, The Globalized Republican Ideal
(* Pettit, Ch1, Ch.2, Ch.3
Communitarianism – Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy

7. **Cosmopolitanism vs. Social Liberalism**

(*) Kant (2)
Rawls (3), sec. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 16
Beitz, Part 3, 1, 2 & 3
Miller, Ch. 2, 3
Mollendorf, Global inequality and Injustice
Mollendorf, Ch.2 & Ch. 4
Pogge, Introduction, Ch. 4
Singer (4), Ch. 5
Cosmopolitanism – Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy

8. **World Poverty and Global Inequality**

Tan, Ch.2, Ch.3
Milanovic, Global Income Inequality by the Numbers: in History and Now
United Nations, The Millenium Development Goals Report
Singer (5), Ch. 6, Ch. 7

9. **Borders: Immigration and territory**

Tan, Ch. 9
Tan, The Boundary of Justice and the Justice of Boundaries
Carens, Aliens and Citizens: The Case for Open Borders
Miller, Selecting immigrants
Miller, Ch. 7
Moellendorf, Ch. 3
Hardin, Migration and community
Walzer, Ch. 2

10. **Climate Change Justice**

Tan, Ch. 12
Mollendorf, Climate change and global justice
Moss, Introduction, Ch. 3
Singer (4), Ch. 2

Items with (*) are optional

Assessment

Module requirements for assessment are:

- A. Group work
- B. Final written exam

Group work (requirement A) counts for 35% per cent of the module grade, while the final exam (requirement B) must be done individually and counts for 65% of the module grade. Attendance to the class and together with the fulfillment of A and B requirements are compulsory. Students who do not attend and do not participate in the activity of the class will be evaluated only on the basis of the final written exam.

Office hours

Office hours are after classes.

NOTE: Since the course is provided for a limited number of students, **Erasmus students** who would like to attend this course and take this exam need to contact the Secretariat of Global Governance by e-mail global.governance@uniroma2.it for registration.