



Academic Year 2019-2020

Syllabus

Global Society

6 CFU

Prof. Lorenzo Pecchi

Course Description

The fundamental question we try to answer in this course is: 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

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

Friedman, Free to Choose

Hayeck, The Constitution of Liberty

Kant, (1) Grounding of the Metaphysical of Moral

Kant (2) Perpetual Peace: a Philosophical Sketch

MacIntyre, After Virtue

Mill, Utilitarianism

Miller, National Responsibility and Global Justice

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
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
Walzer, Spheres of Justice

Course Outlines

1. Introduction to moral theories

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

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

Sen, Ch.1, 2, & 3

Nussbaum, Ch.2

6. Communitarianism & Republicanism

Sandel (1), Ch. 8

Sandel (2), Introduction, Ch. 1

McIntyre. Ch. 15 – 16

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
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

Course requirements are:

- One short paper (max 5 pages) on topics to be assigned
- Final examination
- Class participation & homework to be done in groups.

Each paper counts for 30 per cent of the course grade, class participation & homework for 20 per cent and final examination for 50 per cent.

At the end of the lecture period, a final written examination is given. Attendance to the final examination and the short-paper are compulsory in order to pass the exam. Students who do not attend or fail the minimum requirements of attendance in class will be asked to present the short-paper and will be evaluated for 20% on the short-paper and for 80% on the final examination.

Office hours

Office hours are after classes.

NOTE: Erasmus or non Global Governance students who would like to attend one or more courses and take one or more exams need to contact the Secretariat of Global Governance by e-mail global.governance@uniroma2.it for registration and inform the Professor of the course. They are required to sign a code of conduct like all Global Governance students, accepting all values and rules. Please read it carefully before enrolling.

Notice that attendance is required from the very first lesson and you need to attend at least 80% of the course to be considered an attending student.