

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Ethics and Political Philosophy - 15050

Last update 10-10-2019

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Philosophy

Academic year: 0

Semester:

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Lior Erez

Coordinator Email: lior.erez@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours:

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Lior Erez

Course/Module description:

Is there an obligation to obey the law? what is a just government? what is the value of equality? this course introduces the main questions, concepts and theories in ethics and political philosophy, through engaging with classical texts and contemporary dilemmas

Course/Module aims:

- 1. Introduction to classical texts in political philosophy*
- 2. Introduction to the main traditions of western ethics*
- 3. Introduction to the main debates and argument in contemporary political philosophy*
- 4. Development of critical capacities and the ability to understand philosophical arguments*

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- 1. be familiar with the philosophical approach to morality and politics*
- 2. explain the concepts, theories and arguments discussed in class*
- 3. Identity these concepts, theories and arguments in new contexts.*
- 4. Construct a philosophical argument*

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

- 1. Introduction*
- 2. Virtue Ethics*
- 3. Deontology*
- 4. Consequentialism*
- 5. Liberty*
- 6. Rights and Duties*

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7. Political Authority
 8. Democracy and Representation
 9. Rule of Law
 10. Equality and Social Justice
 11. Culture, Community and Identity
 12. Private and Public

Required Reading:

1. Introduction

Plato, *Republic* Book 2, 358-362

Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Ch. 15

David Miller, "Why do we need political philosophy" in *Political Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2003, 1-19

2. Virtue Ethics

Aristotle, *Nichomachean Ethics*, 1-3

3. Deontology

Exodus, 20:2-14

Kant, *Groundworks for the Metaphysics of Morals*, 1-2.

4. Consequentialism

Mill, *Utilitarianism*, Ch. 1-3

Singer, *Practical Ethics*, Ch. 4

5. Liberty

Berlin, "Two Concepts of Liberty"

Mill, *On Liberty*, Ch. 4

6. Rights and Duties

נעמה כרמי, זכויות אדם: מבוא תיאורטי. תל אביב: רסלינג (2018), פרקים 2-3.

חיים גנז, "העוברים המוקפאים של הזוג נחמני" בתוך מריכארד וגנר ועד זכות השיבה (2006): 52-86.

7. Political Authority

Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Ch. 13, 17-18

Locke, *Second Treatise*, 1-3

Tolstoy, "The Slavery of Our Times"

8. Democracy and Representation

Plato, *The Republic*, Book 6, 488-489, Book 7
Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, Book 1, ch. 1-7
Mill, *On Representative Government*, Ch. 3

9. Rule of Law

Locke, *Second Treatise*, Ch. 2
Beccaria, *On Crimes and Punishment*, ch. 1-2
John Kleinig, "The Moral Foundations of Policing" in *The Ethics of Policing*,
Cambridge University Press, 1996: pp. 11-29

10. Equality and Social Justice

Rawls, *Justice as Fairness*, Ch. 12-18
Reeves, "The Respect Deficit"

11. Culture, Community and Identity

Ronald Dworkin, "Can a liberal state support art?" in *A Matter of Principle*
(1985), 221-236
וויל קימליקה ורפאל כהן-אלמגור. "מיעוטים עדתיים-תרבותיים בדמוקרטיה ליברלית". עמ'
210-187. בתוך: סוגיות-יסוד בדמוקרטיה הישראלית, בעריכת רפאל כהן-אלמגור. תל אביב: ספרית
פועלים. 1999.
אלכסנדר יעקובסון ואמנון רובינשטיין, "עקרון הנייטרליות וסוגי המשטרים הדמוקרטיים". ישראל
ומשפחת העמים (שוקן, 2003): ע"מ 286-295

12. Private and Public

Susan Muller Okin, "Justice and Gender" in *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 1987: pp.
42-72.
אלי קוק, "הדיקטטורה של הדירקטוריון", *הזמן הזה*, 2019

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 70 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %
Quizzes 30 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: