



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Ethics and Political Philosophy - 15050*

*Last update 20-08-2020*

*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](mailto:lior.erez@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours:*

*Teaching Staff:*

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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, 1-2

3. Deontology

Exodus, 20:2-14

Kant, Groundworks for the Metaphysics of Morals, 1.

4. Consequentialism

Mill, Utilitarianism, Ch. 1-2

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

Tolstoy, "The Slavery of Our Times"

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## 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

## 10. Equality and Social Justice

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

## 11. Culture, Community and Identity

וויל קימליקה ורפאל כהן-אלמגור. "מיעוטים עדתיים-תרבותיים בדמוקרטיות ליברליות". עמ' 187-210. 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 %

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Additional information: