The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Equality - 15155

Last update 04-09-2019

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Philosophy

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dani Attas

Coordinator Email: daniel.attas@huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesdays 14:00-15:00

Teaching Staff:

Prof Daniel Attas

Course/Module description:
   What is the basis of the value of equality? Is equality the right distributive value or some other close idea like priority or sufficiency? What is it that ought to be distributed equally (resources, welfare, capabilities, opportunities)? Ought an egalitarian conception of justice be sensitive to responsibility? If so, how? Is equality a distributive value, or does it refer primarily to a quality of relations?

Course/Module aims:
   To be acquainted with the philosophical issues concerning equality as a conception of justice.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
   To describe the main parameters of contemporary analytical discussion of equality as a conception of justice.
To critically discuss the central philosophical ideas on the issue of equality.
To develop and formulate their views on the the question what is the value of equality and what are its practical implications?

Attendance requirements(%):
   100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture, discussion

Course/Module Content:
   1. the idea of equality
2. against equality
3. sufficientarianism
4. prioritarianism
5. limitarianism
6. equality of what? welfare
7. equality of what? resources
8. equality of what? capabilities
9. equality of what? opportunities
10. equality of what? pluralism
11. equality and responsibility
12-14. beyond the distributive paradigm: relational/social equality

Required Reading:
 *Williams, B. "The Idea of Equality" in Philosophy, Politics, and Society, Series II (Basil Blackwell, 1962), pp. 110-131.
Nagel, T. "Equality" in Thomas Nagel, Mortal Questions (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1979)
*Lucas, J.R. "Against Equality", Philosophy XL (1965): 296-307.
*Raz, J. "Principles of Equality", Mind 87 (1978): 321-42.
*Frankfurt, H. "Equality as a Moral Idea", Ethics 98 (1987): 21-43.
*Parfit, D. "Equality or Priority" Lindley Lecture, Department of Philosophy, University of Kansas, 1991.
*Robeyns, I. (2016). Having too much. NOMOS LVI: Wealth. Yearbook of the American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy,
*Benbaji, Y. (2005). The doctrine of sufficiency: A defence. Utilitas, 17(3), 310-332.
*Rawls, J. A Theory of Justice (on social primary goods)§15, pp. 90-95
Walzer, M. "Complex Equality", Ch. 1 of Spheres of Justice (New York: Basic Books, 1983), pp. 3-30.
*Dworkin, R. "What is Equality? Part 1: Equality of Welfare", Philosophy and Public Affairs 10 (1981): 185-245.
Dworkin, R. "What is Equality? Part 2: Equality of Resources", Philosophy and Public Affairs 10 (1981): 283-345.
*Arneson, .R "Liberalism, Distributive Subjectivism, and Equal Opportunity for Welfare" Philosophy and Public Affairs 19 (1990): 158-94.
*Sen, A. "Equality of What?", in The Tanner Lectures on Human Values, vol. 1, edited by S. McMurrin (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1980), 197-220.
*Cohen, G. A., "On the Currency of Egalitarian Justice", Ethics 99 (1989): 906-44.
*Rawls, J. "Social Utility and the Unity of the Self" in Utilitarianism and Beyond
*Anderson, E. "What is the Point of Equality?", Ethics 109 (1999): 287-337.
*Scanlon, T. (2018). Why does inequality matter?. Oxford University Press.
* Lippert-Rasmussen, K. (2018) Relational Equality: Living as equals. Cambridge University Press.

 Additional Reading Material:
  TBA

  Course/Module evaluation:
  End of year written/oral examination 0 %
  Presentation 0 %
  Participation in Tutorials 0 %
  Project work 100 %
  Assignments 0 %
  Reports 0 %
  Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

<u>*Additional information:*</u>
 none