

Required Texts

John Stuart Mill *On Liberty* ISBN 978-0915144433

John Rawls' *Justice as Fairness: A Restatement* ISBN 978-0674005112 – [JAF].

Robert Nozick's *Anarchy, State, and Utopia* ISBN 978-0465051007 – [ASU].

Branco Milanovic *The Haves and Have Notes: A Brief and Idiosyncratic History of Global Inequality* ISBN: 978-0465031412 – [HHN].

Joseph Stiglitz *The Price of Inequality: How Today's Divided Society Endangers Our Future* ISBN: 978-0393345063 – [PI].

Kate Pickett and Richard Wilkinson *The Spirit Level: Why Greater Equality Makes Societies Stronger* ISBN: 978-1608193417 [SL].

All other reading materials are posted on reserve.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce key concepts of political and social philosophy, such as liberty, rights, justice, democracy, and equality. We will look at a number of classical texts such as Mill, Marx, Rawls, and Nozick that examine the foundation of these concepts. We will also discuss a number of issues that pertain to our everyday lives such as the morality of pornography, the right to healthcare, and equal opportunity for education. We will think about the question of distributive justice, different notions of equality and freedom as it can be had in a social schema.

Course Outline**Week 1: Liberty**

Isaiah Berlin, "Two Concepts of Liberty" *on reserve*

Week 2: Liberty

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty* (Chapters I-II)

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty* (Chapters III-IV)

Week 3: Liberty and Security – privacy and surveillance

Jeremy Bentham, "Panopticon" pp. 1-13 *on reserve*; Michel Foucault from *Discipline and Punish* *on reserve*, Dannah Boyd, "Making Sense of Privacy and Publicity" *on reserve*.

Screening *We Steal Secrets* (2013); Balkin, "The Constitution in the National Surveillance State," *on reserve*

Optional: Kitrosser, "Macro-Transparency" as Structural Directive: A Look at the NSA Surveillance Controversy *on reserve*.

Week 4: Liberty and Security – Privacy and Surveillance

Screening *We Steal Secrets* (2013) continued. Bok, "Whistleblowing and Professional Responsibility" *on reserve*; Cole, "Reviving The Nixon Doctrine: NSA Spying, The Commander-In-Chief, And Executive Power In The War On Terror" *on reserve*.

Posner, "Privacy, Surveillance, and Law" *on reserve*; Solove "I've Got Nothing to Hide" and Other Misunderstandings of Privacy" *on reserve*.

Week 5: Free Speech and Pornography

Catharine MacKinnon "Pornography, Civil Rights and Speech" *on reserve*.

Catharine MacKinnon "Pornography, Civil Rights and Speech" – continued *on reserve*.

Week 6: Silencing and The Right to Free Speech

Ronald Dworkin "Women and Pornography" *NYT on reserve*.

Caroline West "The Free Speech Argument against Pornography" *on reserve*.

Week 7: Equality and Power

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels "Manifesto of the Communist Party" *on reserve*.

Marx and Engels *continued*

Week 8: Equality and Power

Branco Milanovic, Vignette 2.1 [HHN]; Allen Wood, 'Marx on Equality' *on reserve*.

Branco Milanovic, Vignette 2.2 [HHN], Kate Pickett and Richard Wilkinson, Part One, Chapters 1 through 3 [SL].

Week 9: Distributive Justice

Rawls, pp. 1-38 (sec. 1-11) [JAF].

Rawls, pp. 39-66 (sec. 12-18); pp. 80-89 (sec. 23-25) [JAF].

Week 10: Distributive Justice

Rawls, pp. 89-106 (sec. 26-30); pp. 130-132 (sec. 39); pp. 148-157 (sec. 45-47); pp. 162-168 (sec. 50) [JAF].

Rawls *continued*.

Week 11: Distributive Justice

Nozick pp. 1-35, pp.48-53 [ASU].

Nozick, pp. 149-89 [ASU].

Week 12: Economics and Health

Joseph Stiglitz, Chapters 1 through 3 [PI], Milanovic, Vignettes 1.7 and 2.3 [HHN]

Pickett and Wilkinson Chapters 4 through 8 [SL]

Optional: Schlomi Segall, 'Is Health (Really) Special? Health Policy between Rawlsian and Luck Egalitarian Justice; Michael Marmot (Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health), 'Global Inequalities – Implications for Research, Practice, and Policy.' Available here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTni72CPeoA>

Week 13: Inequality and Education

Pickett and Wilkinson Chapters 12 [SL]

Sean Reardon, 'No Rich Child Left Behind' (NY Times, 27 April 2013)

The San Jose letter to Michael Sandel

Optional:

Chronicle piece by Jennifer Morton:

<http://chronicle.com/blogs/conversation/2013/07/29/unequalclassrooms-what-online-education-cannot-teach/>