Course Outline
PHIL 5350 Section F
Seminar in Ethics or Moral Philosophy
John Stuart Mill’s Moral and Political Philosophy

Department of Philosophy       Academic year 2010-2011 Fall Term

Time: Monday 2:35-5:25   Room: PA 3A36

Professor:  Wendy Donner, Professor of Philosophy

Office: Room 3A47 Paterson Hall   Phone: 520-2600 ext. 3943

Email: wendy_donner@carleton.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday 2:30-4:00 or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
In this seminar we will explore John Stuart Mill’s moral and political philosophy, with emphasis on recent scholarship. We will begin by examining the elements of his utilitarian moral philosophy, including his theory of value and the structure of the Art of Life (Morality, Justice, Virtue and Aesthetics). We will then go on to consider other topics including liberty, democratic education, liberalism and democracy, liberal feminism and environmental philosophy. The goal throughout will be to examine Mill’s major writings such as Utilitarianism, On Liberty, Representative Government and The Subjection of Women in the light of recent commentary and scholarship.

REQUIRED BOOKS
Note: all books are available at Haven Books on Sunnyside
(2) Wendy Donner and Richard Fumerton, Mill, Wiley-Blackwell
(3) Nadia Urbinati and Alex Zakaras, editors, J.S.Mill’s Political Thought: A Bicentennial Reassessment, Cambridge University Press

NOTE: All 33 volumes of Mill’s Collected Works can be found and downloaded on the web at the Liberty Fund’s Online Library of Liberty: (http://oll.libertyfund.org/Home3/Author.php?recordID=0172 ) .

TOPICS AND READINGS:
(1) Utilitarianism: Theory of Value
Quantitative and qualitative hedonism, virtue ethics.
Reading: Mill, Utilitarianism in Gray, especially Chapter 2.

(2) Utilitarianism: The Art of Life, Morality and Virtue
The structure of Mill’s moral theory, the Art of Life, morality, act and rule utilitarianism, rights, justice and utility, virtue ethics.
Reading: Mill, *Utilitarianism* in Gray, especially Chapter 5.

(3) Liberty
The Liberty Principle, autonomy, individuality, freedom of expression

(4) Political Philosophy: Liberalism and Democracy
Liberalism and egalitarianism, representative government and democracy
Reading: Considerations on Representative Government in Gray.
Wendy Donner, “Political Philosophy: Liberalism and Democracy” in Donner, 90-105.
Jonathan Riley, “Mill’s Neo-Athenian Model of Liberal Democracy” in Urbinati and Zakaras, 221-249.

(5) Sexual Equality and The Subjection of Women
*The Subjection of Women* and liberal feminism; sexual equality; liberty vs. power and despotism.
Reading: Mill, *The Subjection of Women* in Gray.

(6) Environmental Ethics ?
COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND WEIGHTINGS

Note: All assignments are essay format

1. Class presentations:                     30%      Schedule to be arranged
2. Research proposal                       10%      Due Monday December 6
3. Take-home examination               60%      Due December 22

NOTES

1. Students will do two oral presentations and hand in two 1250 word papers.
2. The research proposal should be 1-2 pages, or 250-500 words. It should include a bibliography in addition to the 1-2 pages. The bibliography should include 5-10 sources. I recommend that you set up a meeting to discuss your proposal with me. It is not required, but suggested.
3. The take-home exam should be 15-18 pages or 3800-4500 words.

Policies and Regulations

Due Dates for Term Assignments:

Extensions for term assignments will be granted only for documented medical reasons or personal emergencies. Students should consult with me if at all possible prior to the deadline if an extension is required. Assignments handed in late without an extension will be penalized. The penalty for late term assignments will be a deduction of 2 marks out of 100 for each working day past the due date, up to the Senate-defined deadline. Students are required to hand in all term work by the Senate-defined deadline. Beyond this Senate-defined deadline, only official deferrals petitioned through the Registrar's Office will be honored.

Students who are unable to complete a final paper or write a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control or whose performance on an examination has been impaired by such circumstances may apply within five working days to the Registrar’s Office for permission to extend a term paper deadline or to write a deferred examination. Permission can be granted only if the request is fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documents.

Students must hand in term assignments directly to me or to the Philosophy Department locked essay box, located in the hallway of Paterson 3A. Students should not under any circumstances put term assignments under my door or in my mailbox. It is the policy of the Department of Philosophy that essays transmitted to the Department by FAX will not be accepted. I do not accept assignments submitted by email.

It is crucial that students retain a hard copy of all assignments submitted in every course.
Seminar Presentations:

Attendance at and performance of your seminar presentation is compulsory. Failure to do your presentation will normally result in no mark for that presentation and F for the course. If an absence from your presentation is justified to me by a letter from a medical doctor, or lawyer, or another acceptable written excuse and if I am contacted regarding the absence prior to or as soon as possible after the absence, you will not be penalized. In such circumstances I will reschedule the presentation or, at my discretion, assign a make-up assignment.

Incomplete Term Work:

The calendar states that incomplete term work or unacceptably low standing will result in a grade of F.

Numerical Equivalents of Letter Grades:

In accordance with the Carleton University Calendar, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

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<th>Grade</th>
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<td>A</td>
<td>85-89</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<td>WDN</td>
<td>Withdrawn from the course</td>
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<td>ABS</td>
<td>Student absent from final exam</td>
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<td>Final grade Deferred for documented personal or medical conditions</td>
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<td>FND</td>
<td>Failure with no deferred final examination allowed</td>
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Academic Integrity and Academic Offences, especially Plagiarism:

Students are expected to read and abide by the policies stated in the calendar. University regulations stipulate that allegations of plagiarism, cheating or any violations of examination conduct rules will be thoroughly reviewed. Each case must be reported to the Dean, who investigates each allegation. If there is no resolution following this investigation at the Dean’s level, a tribunal will be appointed by the Senate to review the case and make a final decision.

Note on Plagiarism:

Webster’s Dictionary defines plagiarism as stealing. Plagiarism is the submission of someone else’s writing/ideas/work as your own. All ideas presented which are not your own must be properly referenced. While forms of plagiarism may vary, each involves verbatim or near verbatim presentation of the writings or ideas of others’ as one’s own without adequately acknowledging the original source.

Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to) copying from a book, article or another student, downloading material or ideas from the internet, or otherwise submitting someone else’s work or ideas as your own.

Academic Freedom

Students enrolling this course are advised that studying literature, culture and ideas, including those of societies other than their own, will expose them to unfamiliar and sometimes provocative attitudes, images, language and values. All participants in the course must be willing to examine the relevant texts, must
make a sincere effort to understand the presuppositions of others, and be willing to discuss, verbally and in writing, the objects of study. By enrolling in this course, students accept a commitment to academic freedom for all participants, themselves, and the professor.

Other:

Students are required to comply with the policies of the university as stated in the calendar. Note especially the sections on Academic Standing, Instructional Offences, Offences of Conduct and the Academic Year.

Student Academic Support Services

Students should note the following academic support services, which you are encouraged to use: Writing Tutorial Service (229 PA); Student Academic Success Centre (SASC, 302 Tory); and the Learning Commons (4th Floor, Library).

Academic Integrity Statement for Graduate Course Outlines:

Plagiarism and cheating at the graduate level are viewed as being particularly serious and the sanctions imposed are accordingly severe. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See http://www2.carleton.ca/graduate-studies/policies-and-guidelines). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Plagiarism and cheating – presenting another's ideas, arguments, words or images as your own, using unauthorized material, misrepresentation, fabricating or misrepresenting research data, unauthorized co-operation or collaboration or completing work for another student – weaken the quality of the graduate degree. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties including: expulsion; suspension from all studies at Carleton; suspension from full-time studies; a refusal of permission to continue or to register in a specific degree program; academic probation; or a grade of Failure in the course.
Assignments:
Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:
- must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips
- must staple the paper
- must include the following in the lower right corner of the cover sheet:
  - student name
  - student number
  - course number and section
  - instructor’s name
- The Philosophy Department does not accept assignments by FAX. You may send them by courier, if necessary.
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by 4:15 on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day’s date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

Deferrals for Term Work:
If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a final assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral of examination/assignment. For deferred examinations, you must apply within 5 working days after the scheduled date of your exam. To apply for deferral of a final assignment, you must apply within 5 working days of the last scheduled day of classes. Visit the Registrar’s Office for more information.

Plagiarism:
It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of ‘plagiarism’ as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. (Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations, section 14.3, page 56 or http://www.carleton.ca/cu0809uc/regulations/acadregsuniv14.html#14.3

Academic Accommodation:
For Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC every term to have a Letter of Accommodation sent to the Instructor by their Coordinator. In addition, students are expected to confirm their need for accommodation with the Instructor no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/ midterm. If you require accommodations only for formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, you must request accommodations by the last official day to withdraw from classes in each term.

For Religious Observance: Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious observance should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student.

Important Dates:
- Sept. 9 Classes start (after Orientation events).
- Sept. 22 Last day for registration and course changes in Fall term and two-term courses.
- Sept. 30 Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from Fall term or two-term courses.
- Oct. 8 University Day – no classes.
- Oct. 11 Thanksgiving Day – university closed.
- Nov. 22 Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000 level before the Final Examination period.
- Dec. 6 Last day of classes, Fall term. Last day for handing in term assignments, subject to any earlier course deadline.
- Dec. 6 Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
- Dec. 9-22 Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
- Jan. 3 Winter term classes begin.
- Jan. 14 Last day for registration and course changes in Winter term classes.
- Jan. 31 Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter courses or winter portion of two-term courses.
- Feb. 21 Family Day – university closed
- Feb. 21-25 Winter Break, classes suspended.
- Mar. 23 Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000 level before the Final Examination period.
- Apr. 5 Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter term classes. Last day for handing in term assignments, subject to any earlier course deadline.
- Apr. 5 Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
- Apr. 7-21 Final Examinations.

Addresses:
Department of Philosophy: 3A46 Paterson Hall
www.carleton.ca/philosophy
520-2110
Registrar’s Office: 300 Tory
www.carleton.ca/registrar
520-3500
Student Academic Success Centre: 302 Tory
www.carleton.ca/sasc
520-7850
Paul Menton Centre: 500 University Centre
www.carleton.ca/vmc
520-6608
Writing Tutorial Service: 4th Floor, Library
www.carleton.ca/wts
520-6632
MacOdrum Library www.library.carleton.ca
520-2735