

Philosophy 3320 – Contemporary Ethical Theory
Fall 2018; Mondays, 11:35-2:25
Prof. Robert Ware (OH: by appointment)

OUTLINE

We will study two important ethical theories of the last forty years: John Rawls's theory of justice as fairness and G. A. Cohen's attempt to rescue justice and equality "from Rawlsian liberal thought". We will focus on their texts, but other works will be consulted. The course will end on forms of justice. Classes will be devoted to lectures, presentations, and discussion.

Main Texts (available at Bookstore):

John Rawls, *Justice as Fairness: A Restatement* [Justice as Fairness]

G. A. Cohen, *On the Currency of Egalitarian Justice* [Currency]

Other readings are available on the ARES system, including:

G. A. Cohen, *Rescuing Justice and Equality* [Rescuing]

Week 1: 10 September Ways of Moral and Political Philosophy
Justice as Fairness, xv-xviii, 1-5; *Currency*, 225-235

Week 2: 17 September Rawls's Fundamental Ideas
Justice as Fairness, 5-38
Rec: "Mill" in Rawls, *Lectures on History of Political Philosophy*, pp. 251-313
J. S. Mill, "Utilitarianism", esp. chapter II.

Week 3: 24 September Rawls's Principles of Justice
Justice as Fairness, 39-94

Week 4: 1 October Rawls's Argument from the Original Position
Justice as Fairness, 135-179
Rec: Rawls, "Justice as Fairness: Political not Metaphysical"

(University Closed; No class 8 October)

Week 5: 15 October Incentives and Structures
Justice as Fairness, 180-202
Cohen, *Rescuing*, 1-23, 27-48

(Note 1 due 15 October, 11 pm; topic from Rawls)

(Reading Period; No class 22 October)

Week 6: 29 October Cohen's Big Issues and the Difference Principle
Currency, 236-254 and 1-43

Week 7: 5 November Equality of What?
Currency, 44-72

Quiz (in class, 5 November)

Week 8: 12 November Luck Egalitarianism
Currency, 116-143

(Note 2 due 12 November, 11 pm; topic from Cohen)

Week 9: 19 November Forms of Justice, I
(readings to be determined)

Week 10: 26 November Forms of Justice, II
(readings to be determined)

Week 11: 3 December New Questions
(readings to be determined)

Week 12: 7 December New Searches
(Final paper due 7 December, 11 pm)

COURSE WORK for 3320

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| Presentation (about 10 minutes) (on material not part of regular reading) | 10% |
| Note 1 (about 900 words) (Note 1 due 15 October, 11 pm; topic from Rawls) | 20% |
| Quiz (in class, 5 November) | 10% |
| Note 2 (about 900 words) (Note 2 due 12 November, 11 pm; topic from Cohen) | 20% |
| Report on final approved paper topic | 10% |
| Final paper (about 1500 words) (Final paper due 7 December, 11 pm) | 30% |

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2018-19)**Assignments:**

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- Must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips.
- Must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box).
- Must include the following on the first page: student name and number; course name and number; instructor's name.
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates below.
- 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.

Evaluation:

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Deferrals for Final Exams:

If you miss a final examination (formally scheduled or take-home) because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral. You must apply within 3 working days after the scheduled date of your formally scheduled exam or within 3 working days after the due date of a take-home exam. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information:

<http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv2/#2.5>

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.

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

Academic Accommodation:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Pregnancy obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Survivors of Sexual Violence: as a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities: Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Important Dates:

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| Sept. 5 | Classes start. |
| Sept. 18 | Last day for registration and course changes for fall term and fall/winter (two-term) courses. |
| Sept. 30 | Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from fall term or two-term courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript. |
| Oct. 8 | Statutory holiday. University closed. |
| Oct. 22-26 | Fall Break – no classes. |
| Nov. 23 | Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, before the official examination period. |
| Dec. 7 | Last day of fall term classes. Classes follow a Monday schedule. Last day for academic withdrawal from fall term courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for a fall term course. |
| Dec. 9-21 | Final examinations for fall term courses and mid-term examinations in two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week. |
| Dec. 21 | All take-home examinations are due. |
| Jan. 7 | Classes begin. |
| Jan. 18 | Last day for registration and course changes in the winter term. |
| Jan. 31 | Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter term courses or from the winter portion of two-term courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript. |
| Feb. 18 | Statutory holiday. University closed. |
| Feb. 18-22 | Winter Break – no classes. |
| Mar. 26 | Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in winter term or fall/winter courses before the official examination period. |
| Apr. 9 | Last day of two-term and winter term classes. Last day for academic withdrawal from fall/winter and winter courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for two-term and for winter term courses. |
| Apr. 12-27 | Final examinations for winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week. |
| Apr. 19-21 | Statutory holiday. University closed. No examinations take place. |
| Apr. 27 | All take-home examinations are due on this day. |

Addresses:

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| Department of Philosophy: | 3A35 Paterson Hall www.carleton.ca/philosophy 520-2110 |
| Registrar's Office: | 300 Tory www.carleton.ca/registrar 520-3500 |
| Academic Advising Centre: | 302 Tory www.carleton.ca/academicadvising 520-7850 |
| Writing Services: | 4 th Floor, Library http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/ 520-3822 |