JUSTICE

Philosophy 21605
University of Chicago
Fall 2008

INSTRUCTOR

Anton Ford
210 Stuart Hall
Office Hours: Wed. 4:30-6:30 and by appointment
Graduate discussion section: Tuesdays, 5-6 pm
antonford@uchicago.edu

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Dasha Polzik
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 2-5 pm, Classics Café, by appointment only
Undergraduate discussion section: Fridays, 4-5 pm
polzik@uchicago.edu

DESCRIPTION

This course explores a tradition of thought about justice extending from Plato through Kant. In addition to works by these authors, we will read selections from Aristotle, Aquinas, and Rousseau. One of the distinguishing marks of this tradition is its emphasis on the relation between justice and the common good. Another mark, related to the first, is its tendency to conceive of justice as holding among the parts of a whole, and not—or not simply—among discrete individuals.

PRIMARY TEXTS

Plato, *The Republic*, trans. Grube and Reeve
Aristotle, *The Nicomachean Ethics*, trans. Crisp
Rousseau, *The Basic Political Writings,* trans. Cress
Kant, *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, trans. Gregor

Secondary texts will be made available on CHALK as we proceed.

PREREQUISITES

At least one previous course in philosophy.

REQUIREMENTS

Undergraduates will write two papers:

One 4-to-6-page paper, due October 31, by email, 5pm
One 10-to-12-page paper, due December 8, by email, 5pm

Graduates will write one term paper of about 20 pages, due December 8

Late papers will be marked down 1/3 of a letter grade (e.g. from B+ to B) per day, unless an extension has been arranged in advance.

READING SCHEDULE

1. 10/01 **VIRTUE, FUNCTION & HAPPINESS**
   Primary: Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, I; VI.5, 7–8; X.9
   Secondary: None

2. 10/06 **POLITICAL ANIMALS & COMMON GOODS**
   Primary: Aristotle, *Politics*, I.1–8; III.6
   Aristotle, *History of Animals*, I.1
   Aquinas, *Commentary on Aristotle's* Politics, Prologue
   Secondary: TBA

3. 10/08 **POLITICAL ANIMALS & COMMON GOODS, II**
   Primary: Aristotle, *Politics*, I.1–8; III.6
   Aristotle, *History of Animals*, I.1
   Aquinas, *Commentary on Aristotle's* Politics, Prologue
   Secondary: TBA

4. 10/13 **IS JUSTICE A VIRTUE?**
   Primary: Plato, *Republic*, I
   Secondary: TBA

5. 10/15 **GLAUCON'S CHALLENGE**
   Primary: Plato, *Rep.*, II (esp. 357a–376e)
   Secondary: TBA

6. 10/17 **JUSTICE IN THE CITY**
   Primary: Plato, *Rep.*, IV (419a–434c)
   Secondary: TBA

7. 10/20 **JUSTICE IN THE SOUL**
   Primary: Plato, *Rep.*, IV (434c–445e)
   Secondary: TBA

8. 10/22 **VIRTUE & VOLUNTARY ACTION**
   Primary: Aristotle, *NE*, II; III
   Secondary: TBA

9. 10/24 **GENERAL & PARTICULAR JUSTICE**
   Primary: Aristotle, *NE*, V.1–2
   Aquinas, *Summa Theologica* TBA
   Secondary: TBA

10. 10/27 **PARTICULAR JUSTICE (I): DISTRIBUTION & RECTIFICATION**
   Primary: Aristotle, *NE*, V.3–4
   Aquinas, *ST*, TBA
   Secondary: TBA

11. 10/29 **PARTICULAR JUSTICE (II): INVOLUNTARY & VOLUNTARY TRANSACTIONS**
Primary: Aristotle, *NE*, V.4–5
Aristotle, *Pol*, I.8-10
Aquinas, *ST*, TBA
Secondary: TBA

12. 11/03 **SELF & OTHER**
Primary: Aristotle, *NE*, V.6–11; XII.1–9; IX.4–9
Aquinas, *ST,* TBA
Secondary: TBA

13. 11/05 **MUTUAL DEPENDENCE & *AMOUR-PROPRE* (I)**
Primary Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*, Preface; I
Secondary: TBA

14. 11/10 **MUTUAL DEPENDENCE & *AMOUR-PROPRE* (II)**
Primary: Rousseau, *DOI*, II
Secondary: TBA

15. 11/12 **FREEDOM & AUTHORITY**
Primary: Rousseau, *On the Social Contract*, I.1–5; IV.2
Secondary: TBA

16. 11/17 **THE SOCIAL CONTRACT**
Primary: Rousseau, *OSC*, I.6–9
Secondary: TBA

17. 11/19 **THE GENERAL WILL**
Primary: Rousseau, *OSC*, II
Secondary: TBA

18. 11/24 **COMMON RATIONAL MORAL KNOWLEDGE**
Primary: Kant, *Groundwork of MM*, Preface; I
Secondary: TBA

19. 12/01 **UNIVERSAL LAW**
Primary: Kant, *GMM*, I–II
Secondary: TBA

20. 12/03 **THE KINGDOM OF ENDS**
Primary: Kant, *GMM*, II
Secondary: TBA