

**PHIL 182-008**  
**Social and Political Philosophy**  
FALL 2019

**Instructor:** Daniel Skibra

**Time and Location:** M, W, F 11:30-12:20pm, Cuneo Hall, Room 302

**Contact:** email: dskibra@luc.edu

**Office Hours:** Wed, 12:30 - 1:30pm; Crown Center 334G or F

## Course Description

This course will investigate one of the central questions of philosophy and social theory: How should we, as human beings, live together?

This course will investigate one of the central questions of philosophy and social theory: How should we, as human beings, live together? That is to say, given that social and political institutions both shape us and are shaped by us, what values should we adopt so that we might best fulfill our natures as individual and social beings? To answer the main question of this course, several of the following issues will be examined:

- the nature of justice,
- what constitutes a good society,
- the role of morality in society,
- the tension between freedom and responsibility,
- the challenges of diversity and inclusion,
- individual and group rights, the nature of culture and cultural relativity,
- the role of history in the constitution of a society.

## Outcome Statement

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the major philosophical questions in the area of social philosophy with attention to the historical and conceptual development of these questions, and be able to articulate some of the major problems and responses central to this area of philosophy.

## This Course and the University Core Curriculum

<b>Knowledge Area(s) satisfied:</b>	Societal and Cultural Knowledge, Philosophical Knowledge, Ethics
<b>Skill(s) Developed</b>	Critical Thinking Skills and Dispositions, Ethical Awareness and Decision-Making
<b>Value Requirement(s) satisfied:</b>	Understanding and Promoting Justice

## Course Requirements

### Assignments

Reading Quizzes: 10%

Paper 1 due **Oct 18** (Draft due **Oct 11**) ( $\approx$ 5 pages): 15%

Paper 2 due **Dec 4** (Draft due **Nov 25**) ( $\approx$ 5 pages): 20%

Mid-term (**Oct 4**): 15%

Final Exam (**Dec 9**): 20%

Small assignments (dates to be determined): 10%

Class discussion/ participation: 10%

### Notes on assignments

Resources for writing a philosophy paper:

- <http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/guidelines/writing.html>

### Grading

There will be a total of 200 points to earn in this class by the end of the term. A record of the points you have earned will be displayed in Sakai. The percentage of points you earn will be converted into letter grades as follows:

<i>A</i>	: [94%, 100%]	<i>B-</i>	: [80%, 83%]	<i>D+</i>	: [66%, 70%]
<i>A-</i>	: [90%, 94%]	<i>C+</i>	: [76%, 80%]	<i>D</i>	: [63%, 66%]
<i>B+</i>	: [86%, 90%]	<i>C</i>	: [73%, 76%]	<i>D-</i>	: [60%, 63%]
<i>B</i>	: [83%, 86%]	<i>C-</i>	: [70%, 73%]	<i>F</i>	: <60%

## Course Policies

### Attendance

You are required to attend the class meetings; attendance will be taken. However, I understand that emergencies arise, people get sick, and other factors may legitimately prevent you

from coming to a particular class. Therefore, I will adopt the following attendance policy. Your grade will not be affected by up to **4** absences. You do not need to provide any kind of written excuse or justification for these absences (although you are welcome to provide them). However, more than three absences will begin to have an effect on your final grade, bringing your average down by a third of a grade for each additional day missed. *If at some point in the term you expect to miss more than this (due to a serious illness, for example), let me know as soon as you can, **before** you accumulate the absences!* It will be your responsibility to distribute your absences however you see fit. My advice: try not to use them. You never know when something comes up.

Importantly, you are responsible for the material covered in class. Any slides presented in class will be made available on Sakai, but class time will often not be devoted to lecture, and material will not always be on the slides. There is simply no substitute for being in class.

## Students with Disabilities

If you have a learning disability that requires special arrangements for note-taking in class, essay-writing, or sitting exams, please inform Student Services (Sullivan Center) at the beginning of the semester. After doing that, please inform me by the end of the first week. Student Services will not notify me: you must approach me, and I guarantee confidentiality.

## Policy on Academic Integrity

In writing an essay, don't take a sentence from a book or website and put it into your essay without acknowledging the source. Doing so amounts to claiming the sentence or passage to be your own work. Plagiarism is cheating. It also prevents you from learning.

**Please note:** *That includes unintentional or accidental plagiarizing.*

Loyola's Principles and Policies for Academic Excellence states: "Loyola University Chicago has strict policies on incidents of plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and, in cases of the use of copyrighted material, a legal offense. Incidents of plagiarism are reported to the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled and a note is placed in the student's file. The student receives an 'F' on the assignment and may receive an 'F' in the course. Serious or repeated incidents of plagiarism could result in permanent expulsion from the university."

If you and other student(s) prepare essays together, limit it to discussion and taking brief notes. Do not work together in writing the essay. Do not prepare for your essay by reading another student's essay, or let another student read yours when she is preparing her own. If the same sentence turns up in two students' essays, the instructor will assume that plagiarism has occurred, and both students may get an 'F' for the essay-assignment.

## Extension Policy

The due dates for the assignments are as they appear on the syllabus. Late assignments will not be tolerated, and will accumulate deductions of one third of a letter grade for every day the assignment is late. If you think you will need an extension for an assignment, you need to request one at least two days before the due date. Do not ask after the date has passed, or the night before the deadline.

## In-class Technology Policy

In this class, we will regularly engage in small group instruction and activities, as well as discussions with the whole class. Technology such as cell phones, tablets, and laptops easily become a distraction and create an obstacle to engagement during class time. For this reason, the policy of the class will be as follows. Do not use these devices during class time. Any lecture slides will be made available on the online course site, and any notes you might need to make should be taken by hand. Of course, exceptions will be made for adaptive devices. If you have a need for such a device, please consult the instructor.

## Email/ Communication

The best way to reach me outside class is via email. However, give me 24-48 hours to respond during the week. If you email me after 5pm on Friday, don't expect a response until Monday morning. Most of the time, I will be able to respond to you sooner than this, but please plan your emails accordingly. When there is a paper due, get all of your questions to me 48 hours before the due date.

I will answer *simple, specific* questions over email pertaining to the course material or the logistics of the course. I can also address simple interpretive questions you have with the material, or arguments you are trying out for your papers. To address anything more involved, you'll need to meet with me in office hours. (I highly encourage you to come to office hours in any event.)

## Participation

Participation in class discussion constitutes a significant part of your grade. You will be expected to attend class having done the readings and thought about them enough to discuss the arguments they make, to ask informed questions about them, and to engage with the other members of the class on these matters. Two expectations in service of these aims are worth making explicit. First, you'll need to be well-prepared, having read and thought about the assigned readings before class. Secondly, we will all need to foster a respectful, open environment where we can clarify, interpret and critically engage the philosophical issues dealt with in readings. Maintaining a respectful classroom atmosphere is crucial, and part of your responsibility.

## Required Texts

- All required readings will be posted to the online course site. You do not need to buy a book for this class.

## Reading Schedule\*

\*The readings should be completed by the date indicated. You may have a quiz on the readings the day that they are due.

Day	Date	Assignment	Length
<b>What would it be like without a state?</b>			
MON	Aug 26	Introductions; no reading	
WED	Aug 28	Hobbes - <i>Leviathan</i> , Chapters 13 - 15	23 PAGES
FRI	Aug 30	Hobbes continued - no new reading	
MON	Sept 2	<b>Labor Day</b> - no class	
WED	Sept 4	Locke- <i>Second Treatise of Government</i> , Chapters 2 - 3	7 PAGES
FRI	Sept 6	Rousseau - <i>Discourse on the Origins of Inequality</i> , First Discourse	14 PAGES
<b>What justifies the state?</b>			
MON	Sept 9	Locke - <i>Second Treatise of Government</i> , Chapters 8 - 14	25 PAGES
WED	Sept 11	Locke continued - no new reading	
FRI	Sept 13	Rousseau - <i>the Social Contract</i> , Book 1	10 PAGES
MON	Sept 16	Mill - <i>Utilitarianism</i> , Chapter 2 (have a look at Chapter 3 as well)	19 PAGES
WED	Sept 18	Mill - <i>Utilitarianism</i> , Chapter 5	21 PAGES
FRI	Sept 20	<b>Discussion day</b>	
<b>Who should rule? Who should be in charge?</b>			
MON	Sept 23	Plato - <i>the Republic</i> , Book V	40 PAGES
WED	Sept 25	Plato - <i>the Republic</i> , Book VI	33 PAGES
FRI	Sept 27	Plato continued - no new reading	
MON	Sept 30	Rousseau - <i>the Social Contract</i> , Book 2	17 PAGES
WED	Oct 2	Madison - Federalist Paper # 10	5 PAGES
FRI	Oct 4	<b>Mid Term</b>	
MON	Oct 7	<b>Mid-Semester Break</b> - no class	
<b>What is liberty? What does it mean to have it?</b>			
WED	Oct 9	Mill - <i>On Liberty</i> , Chapter 1	13 PAGES
FRI	Oct 11	<b>Paper 1 draft due in class</b>	
MON	Oct 14	Mill - <i>On Liberty</i> , Chapter 2	35 PAGES
WED	Oct 16	Mill - <i>On Liberty</i> , Chapter 4	18 PAGES
FRI	Oct 18	Berlin - <i>Two Concepts of Liberty</i>	53 PAGES
MON	Oct 21	<b>Discussion day</b>	

Day	Date	Assignment	Length
<b>How should goods and property be distributed?</b>			
WED	Oct 23	Locke - <i>Second Treatise of Government</i> , Chapter 5	9 PAGES
FRI	Oct 25	Marx - <i>Estranged Labor</i>	10 PAGES
MON	Oct 28	Nozick - <i>Anarchy, State, and Utopia</i> , Section I of Chapter 7	34 PAGES
WED	Oct 30	Nozick continued - no new reading	
FRI	Nov 1	Rawls - <i>A Theory of Justice</i> , Sections 20 - 25	29 PAGES
MON	Nov 4	Rawls continued - no new reading	
WED	Nov 6	<b>Discussion Day</b>	
<b>Why should we punish?</b>			
FRI	Nov 8	Hart - <i>Prolegomenon to the Principles of Punishment</i>	26 PAGES
MON	Nov 11	Hart continued - no new reading	
WED	Nov 13	Hampton - <i>the Moral Education Theory of Punishment</i>	31 PAGES
FRI	Nov 15	Frontline Documentary <i>Prison State</i>	
MON	Nov 18	Frontline Documentary <i>Prison State</i>	
WED	Nov 20	<b>Discussion day</b>	
<b>Is anyone being left out?</b>			
FRI	Nov 22	Okin - <i>Vulnerability By Marriage</i>	34 PAGES
MON	Nov 25	<b>Paper 2 draft due in class</b>	
WED	Nov 27	<b>Thanksgiving Break - no class</b>	
FRI	Nov 29	<b>Thanksgiving Break - no class</b>	
MON	Dec 2	Manne - <i>Exonerating Men</i> ; Ch 7 of <i>Down Girl</i>	34 PAGES
WED	Dec 4	Coates - <i>the Case for Reparations</i>	34 PAGES
FRI	Dec 6	Discussion and Review	
MON	Dec 9	<b>Final Exam: 1:00 - 3:00 pm</b>	