

## **Introduction to Philosophy II**

*Instructor: Dr Anders Kraal*

### **1. Course Description**

This course offers an overview of Western Philosophy from its beginning to today, focusing on ethical, political, and legal philosophizing. We begin by looking at the thought of Plato, with whom the conversation got going, and then move on chronologically looking at how the conversation continued with Aristotle, Cicero, Augustine, the medieval scholastics, Hobbes, Locke, Spinoza, Rousseau, Burke, J.S. Mill, Marx, Nietzsche, and more recent theorists such as Rawls, Nozick, MacIntyre, and Foucault. Among questions discussed are what it means for an individual or action or society to be good and just, and when and on what grounds a government or law can be said to be legitimate.

**2. Lectures.** MWF 12:00-12:50pm in IBLC 182

**3. Instructor.** Dr. Anders Kraal (anders.kraal@ubc.ca)

**4. Instructor Office Hours.** TBA

**5. Instructor Email Policy.** Instructor will reply to emails weekdays, typically within 48 h

**6. Teaching Assistant.** TBA (TA will be marking exams and papers.)

**7. Required Texts.** Plato's *The Republic* (I will use the Dover edition, though any edition is fine); plus a PDF with readings to be posted on the Canvas course webpage.

### **8. Course Requirements**

*In-Class Exam (x3):* In the in-class exams, you will be asked to provide answers to questions dealing with matters brought up in class prior to the date of the exam. If you miss these exams you will automatically be assigned 0 points unless you provide the TA with an UBC Academic Calendar approved rationale for make-up exam or transfer of the weight to the final exam.

*Final Exam:* The final exam will be held during UBC's final examinations period. A missed final exam will be assigned 0p unless an explanation is provided that is acceptable by the standards of the UBC Academic Calendar (in which case there will be a standing deferred final exam).

### **9. Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the course the student is expected to i) be familiar with the general trajectory of Western political, ethical and legal philosophy from its beginning up to the present day; ii) understand and be able to explain in more detail some specific ideas, arguments, and projects in this intellectual tradition; iii) be familiar with general methodological approaches and styles of reasoning characteristic of this tradition.

## ***10. Marking Parameters***

Your mark in this course will be a function of three main factors i) your performance on the examinable momenta *relative to your peers*, ii) your comprehension of the course material, iii) demonstration of skill in assessing and evaluating philosophical ideas.

## ***11. Marking Scale***

**A+** 90-100% / **A** 85-89% / **A-** 80-84% / **B+** 76-79% / **B** 72-75% / **B-** 68-71%

**C+** 64-67% / **C** 60-63% / **C-** 55-59% / **D** 50-54% / **F** 0-49%

The degree of difficulty on the examinable momenta will be set so as to *aim* at a class average outcome that by and large conforms to the department average for this course down the years. Upwards scaling may be used to this effect.

## ***12. Policy on Review of Marked Work***

Marks on exams and papers will be posted on canvas. Feedback on expected outcomes of exams and papers will be provided (typically by the Instructor) in so-called Feedback Sessions. Any concerns about the marking of a paper or exam should be submitted to the marker (typically the TA) *via email*, and will be responded to (typically by the TA) *via email*.

## ***13. Plagiarism (from the UBC Academic Calendar)***

“Plagiarism, which is intellectual theft, occurs where an individual submits or presents the oral or written work of another person as his or her own. Scholarship quite properly rests upon examining and referring to the thoughts and writings of others. However, when another person's words (i.e. phrases, sentences, or paragraphs), ideas, or entire works are used, the author must be acknowledged in the text, in footnotes, in endnotes, or in another accepted form of academic citation. Where direct quotations are made, they must be clearly delineated (for example, within quotation marks or separately indented). Failure to provide proper attribution is plagiarism because it represents someone else's work as one's own. Plagiarism should not occur in submitted drafts or final works. A student who seeks assistance from a tutor or other scholastic aids must ensure that the work submitted is the student's own. Students are responsible for ensuring that any work submitted does not constitute plagiarism. Students who are in any doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism should consult their instructor before handing in any assignments. See also <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/Vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,959>”

## ***14. UBC Values and Policies (from the UBC Academic Calendar)***

“UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with

disabilities and for religious and cultural observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions. Details of the policies and how to access support are available here (<https://senate.ubc.ca/policiesresources-support-student-success>).”

***15. Schedule (more detailed schedule will be published on canvas)***

4/9 Introductory words

6/9 Excerpts from Sophocles’s *Antigone* and Plato’s *Crito* (see PDF for excerpts)

9/9 Plato’s *The Republic*

11/9 Plato’s *The Republic*

13/9 Plato’s *The Republic*

16/9 Plato’s *The Republic*

18/9 Plato’s *The Republic*

20/9 Plato’s *The Republic*

23/9 Plato’s *The Republic*

25/9 Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics* (PDF for excerpts)

27/9 Aristotle’s *Politics* (PDF for excerpts)

30/9 Cicero’s *The Republic* and Augustine’s *The City of God* (PDF for excerpts)

2/10 Exam1 (worth 20%)

4/10 The concept of law in Greek philosophy (PDF for excerpts)

7/10 The Roman legal system in outline (PDF for excerpts)

9/10 Cicero on objective *ius naturale* (“natural law”). (PDF)

11/10 The beginning of legal scholarship in Bologna, Paris and Oxford in 1050-1200. (PDF)

14/10 Thanksgiving Day

16/10 Aquinas on natural law (PDF for excerpts)

18/10 The concept of subjective *ius naturale* (“natural rights”) (PDF for excerpts)

21/10 The concept of subjective *ius naturale* in Hobbes and Spinoza (PDF for excerpts)

23/10 The concept of subjective *ius naturale* in Locke and Jefferson (PDF for excerpts)

25/10 Exam2 (worth 20%)

28/10 Hobbes and Spinoza on government (PDF for excerpts)

30/10 Locke on government (PDF for excerpts)

1/11 Digression on theories of land property rights in the 1600s (PDF for excerpts)

4/11 Rousseau on government and land property rights (PDF for excerpts)

6/11 Digression on the French Revolution (PDF for excerpts)

8/11 Digression on the American Revolution (PDF for excerpts)

11/11 Remembrance Day: no class

13/11 Midterm break: no class

15/11 Exam3 (worth 20%)

18/11 Kant on ethics, laws, and government (PDF for excerpts)

20/11 Burke on ethics, laws, and government (PDF for excerpts)

22/11 Bentham on ethics, laws, and government (PDF for excerpts)

25/11 JS Mill on ethics, laws, and government (PDF for excerpts)

27/11 Fourier and Marx on ethics, laws, and government (PDF for excerpts)

30/11 Truth Reconciliation Day: no class

2/12 Nietzsche and Foucault on ethics, laws, and government (PDF for excerpts)

4/12 Rawls, Nozick and MacIntyre on ethics, laws and government (PDF)

6/12 Course review

December: final exam (worth 40%) (day and time TBA)