

## **Politics 4216f/9762a: Theories of Global Justice 2014-5.**

Thursday 11.30-1.30, SSC 4112.

Instructor: R. Vernon, SSC 4126, office hours Monday 1-3 and other times by arrangement. ([ravernon@uwo.ca](mailto:ravernon@uwo.ca))

A seminar on some of the main theories of/issues in global justice in recent political theory. Part I introduces the two main theoretical perspectives, cosmopolitan and nationalist. Part II discusses global distributive justice (i.e. issues of wealth, poverty, inequality). Parts III and IV look briefly at issues of retributive and reparative justice (i.e. punishment and compensation).

### Assignments:

1. An essay, 12/15 pages, due on December 3, worth 70%. Late penalty 2% per day. Normally the essay will be on one of the week's topics, drawing on the set readings plus the supplementary reading for that week.
2. A weekly one-page (single-spaced) report summarizing what you take to be important in the set readings, to be handed in at the seminar. There is no mark for this assignment, but students who fail to submit at least 8 reports during the term will not be eligible for a participation mark. The report is simply intended to ensure that members of the group are in a position to exchange views about the readings.
3. Participation mark: 30%. This is a seminar course and it works only if everyone does their best to contribute to discussion. The expectation is that no student will let more than two weeks go by without making a contribution. Feel free to introduce questions about aspects of the readings that puzzle you – this is in fact a very important contribution from which the whole group benefits.

### Part I: Nationalist and Cosmopolitan Views.

#### 1. Nationalist and Cosmopolitan Ethics:

David Miller, *On Nationality*, Oxford University Press 1995, chapter 3.

Robert Goodin, "What is So Special About Our Fellow-Countrymen?" *Ethics* 98, 1988, 663-86.

*Supplementary*: Samuel Scheffler, *Boundaries and Allegiances*, Oxford University Press 2001, chapter 6.

#### 2. "Explanatory Nationalism":

Thomas Pogge, *World Poverty and Human Rights*, Cambridge: Polity, 2002, chapter 5.

David Miller, "National Responsibility and International Justice", in D.K. Chatterjee ed., *The Ethics of Assistance*, Cambridge University Press 2004.

*Supplementary*: Mathias Risse, "How Does the Global Order Harm the Poor?" *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 33, 2005, 349-76.

### 3. Compatriot Preference:

David Miller, "Reasonable Preference for Compatriots", *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, 8 (2005) 63-81

Peter Singer, *One World*, Yale University Press, 2002, chapter 5.

*Supplementary*: Gillian Brock, "What do we owe others as a matter of global justice and does national membership matter?" *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy* 11 (2008), 433-48.

## Part II: Global Distributive Justice.

### 1. Utilitarianism:

Peter Singer, *The Life You Can Save*, Random House 2010, part 1 (The Argument).

Judith Lichtenberg, "Famine, Affluence and Psychology", in J. Schaler ed., *Singer Under Fire*, Chicago: Open Court, 2009, 229-58.

*Supplementary*: Brian Barry, "Humanity and Justice in Global Perspective", in *Democracy, Power and Justice*, Oxford University Press, 1989.

### 2. Contractualism:

John Rawls, *A Theory of Justice*, selection in Steven Cahn ed., *Political Philosophy: The Essential Texts*, 2011, 694-709

Charles Beitz, "Justice and International Relations", *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 4 (4) 1975, 360-89.

*Supplementary*: John Rawls, *The Law of Peoples*, lecture version in Stephen Shute and Susan Hurley eds., *On Human Rights*, New York: Basic Books, 1993

### 3. Nagel's "Problem":

Thomas Nagel, "The Problem of Global Justice", *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 33 (2) 2005, 113-47.

Laura Valentini "Coercion and Global Justice", *American Political Science Review* 105 (1), 2011, 205-220.

*Supplementary*: Simon Caney, "Global distributive justice and the state", *Political Studies* 56, 2008, 487-518.

#### 4. What is Exploitation?

Matt Zwolinski, "Sweatshops, Choice and Exploitation", *Business Ethics Quarterly* 17 (4), 2007, 689-727.

Ruth J. Sample, *Exploitation*, Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2003, ch. 5

*Supplementary*: Robert Goodin, *Reasons for Welfare*, Princeton University Press, 1988, chapter 5

#### Part III: Retributive Justice:

##### 1. The Nuremberg Legacy: "Crime Against Humanity";

Norman Geras, *Crime Against Humanity*, Manchester University Press 2011, chapter 2.

Richard Vernon, "Crime Against Humanity: A Defence of the Subsidiarity View", *Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence* 26 (2013), 229-41.

*Supplementary*: David Luban, "A Theory of Crimes Against Humanity", *Yale Journal of International Law* 29 (2004), 86-146 only.

##### 2. Is Collective Punishment Possible?

Erin Kelly, "The Burdens of Collective Liability", in D.K. Chatterjee and D.Scheid eds., *Ethics and Foreign Intervention*, Cambridge University Press 2003.

Avia Pasternak, "The Distributive Effect of Collective Punishment", in T. Isaacs and R. Vernon eds., *Accountability for Collective Wrongdoing*, Cambridge University Press 2011.

*Supplementary*: Karl Jaspers, *The Question of German Guilt* [1947], Fordham University Press 2001, pp. 21-75.

#### Part IV: Reparative Justice:

##### 1. Reparations for Colonialism:

Catherine Lu, "Colonialism as Structural Injustice: Historical Responsibility and Contemporary Redress", *Journal of Political Philosophy* 19 (2011), 261-81

Kok-Chor Tan, "Colonialism, Reparations and Global Justice", in Jon Miller and Rahul Kumar eds., *Reparations*, Oxford University Press, 2007.

*Supplementary*: Jeremy Waldron, "Superseding Historic Injustice", *Ethics* 103 (1992), 4-28.

**(Graduate) Statement of Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:  
[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_grad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf)