Contemporary Liberal and Democratic Theory
Revised 31 October 2005

Political Science 216
Tuesdays 6:00-8:50
University of California, San Diego
Prof. Gerry Mackie
Fall 2005

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NOTICE: Students should read and be ready to discuss the required readings for the first session on September 27.

PURPOSE
The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the methods and styles of contemporary Anglo-American political theory, and to survey widely the major work in that tradition on liberalism, equality, liberty, multiculturalism, feminism, green thought, and democracy. One unit is about empirical approaches to justice, and generally students are invited to relate normative issues to empirical investigations. The final unit tries to connect political theory to action in the world, and such considerations are always welcome.

John Brady will teach POLI 210D, Contemporary Political Theory, in Winter Quarter. There will be almost no duplication between POLI 216 and POLI210D. 210D will cover items such as Adorno, Habermas Gramsci, Dewey, Schmitt, Honneth, Arendt, feminism, and Rawls’s Political Liberalism. Also, in order to avoid local duplication, we won’t read much of Richard Arneson, UCSD Philosophy, a major figure in this tradition. See http://philosophy2.ucsd.edu/~rarneson/

CONTACTS
gmackie@dss.ucsd.edu
Otherwise, TO BE ARRANGED (TBA).

ASSESSMENT
1. Regular attendance and participation in the seminar.  20%
2. Two five-page papers on assigned readings, one during weeks 1-5, the second during weeks 6-10. Papers are due by noon of the day before class, to instructor and all members of the seminar.  20% each
3. A 15-page paper on a topic of your choice, related to course matter. I recommend that you check the topic with me.  40% Due December 6.

BOOKS TO OBTAIN
• John Dryzek, 2000, *Deliberative Democracy and Beyond*.
• Geoffrey Brennan & Alan Hamlin, 2000, *Democratic Devices and Desires*.
• Spinoza, Flores, Dreyfus, *Disclosing New Worlds: Entrepreneurship, Democratic Action, and the Cultivation of Solidarity*.


In listings below, if a paper is on the internet an URL is given, otherwise the entry is preceded by an *asterisk, which means a copy is available in the departmental lounge (SSB 314).

**Required** readings are…required. **Further** readings are provided simply for your reference, should you want to pursue a topic further on your own. They are incomplete: if curious, ask instructor for additional bibliographic advice.

I. Sep. 27, Introduction: Political Theory; Utilitarianism; Liberalism

**Required**
- *Terence Ball, “Whither Political Theory?”*
- Kymlicka, *Contemporary Political Philosophy*, 10-52 (on utilitarianism)

**Further Reading:**
See internet resources at end of syllabus.

**Political Theory**
Lawrence Hinman, *Ethics: A Pluralistic Approach to Moral Theory* (if you think you need a background in ethics, buy a later edition of this book off the web for a few dollars, and check his website: [http://ethics.sandiego.edu/](http://ethics.sandiego.edu)).


See Kymlicka, *Contemporary Political Philosophy*, 7-9 for further recommendations.

**Utilitarianism**


James Mill, 1820, “Government.” [http://www.mdx.ac.uk/www/study/xmilgov.htm](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/www/study/xmilgov.htm)


James Wood Bailey, *Utilitarianism, Institutions and Justice*


See Kymlicka, *Contemporary Political Philosophy*, 48-52, for further recommendations on utilitarianism.

**Liberalism**


### II. Oct. 4, Liberty

**Required:**

- *Friedrich Hayek, *Constitution of Liberty*, Ch. 1.1.-1.5, Ch. 9.1-9.8*
- *Charles Taylor, “What’s Wrong with Negative Liberty.”*
- *Amartya Sen, 1992, “Freedom, Agency and Well-Being,” from his *Inequality Reexamined*. Scan Ch. 2 for background, read Ch. 3, read and study Ch. 4.*

**Further Reading.**


David Miller, ed., *Liberty*.

Ian Carter, 1996, “The Concept of Freedom” (bibliographic essay)
http://www.theihs.org/libertyguide/hsr/hsr.php/28.html,
Robert Kane, A Contemporary Introduction to Free Will (metaphysical problem of freedom).

III. Oct. 11, John Rawls, Theory of Justice
Required:
• Kymlicka, 75-96, 195-198
Will spill over into next week.

Further Reading:
Kymlicka, Contemporary Political Philosophy, 53-74 (see bibliography at 96-97)
John Rawls, Political Liberalism (dealing with fact of pluralism).
John Rawls, Justice as Fairness: A Restatement (the final and corrected summary).
Samuel Freeman, ed., Cambridge Companion to Rawls.
Norman Daniels, 1975, Reading Rawls.
Thomas Pogge, 1989, Realizing Rawls.
Brian Barry, 1989, Theories of Justice.
Brian Barry, 1995, Justice as Impartiality.
Amartya Sen, 1992, Inequality Reexamined.
G.A. Cohen, 2000, If You’re an Egalitarian, How Come You’re So Rich?
Elizabeth Anderson, 'What is the point of equality?', Ethics, January 1999, 287-337. Stable URL: http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0014-1704%28199901%29109%3A2%3C287%3AWITPOE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-A

IV. Oct. 18, Libertarianism and Conservatism

Required:

Robert Nozick, 1977, Anarchy, State, and Utopia, Preface, Ch. 2, Ch. 3, Ch. 7.1, and 213-238.

Kymlicka, 102-164, on libertarianism


Further Reading:


Friedrich Hayek, Mirage of Social Justice.


James Buchanan, 1975, The Limits of Liberty (libertarian, public choice). Much more Buchanan at the website.


Geoffrey Brennan and Alan Hamlin, forthcoming, Analytic Conservatism.

Roger Scruton, The Meaning of Conservatism (intellectual paleoconservatism).

V. Oct. 25, Feminism, Multiculturalism, Green Political Theory

Required:

- Kymlicka, “Multiculturalism,” in Contemporary Political Philosophy, 326-376 (Kymlicka is a leader in this field).
- Kymlicka, “Feminism,” in Contemporary Political Philosophy, 377-430 (feminism will be covered in POLI 210D).
- Val Plumwood, “Being Prey.” via email
- Val Plumwood, “Gender, Ecofeminism, and the Environment” via email
- Probably one more short green reading TBA

Further Reading:

See Kymlicka for Multiculturalism and Feminism bibliographies.

Andrew Light & Holmes Rolston, latest edition, Environmental Ethics: An Anthology (these two anthologies would get anyone started).

John Dryzek and David Schlosberg, 2005, Debating the Earth: The Environmental Politics Reader, second edition

John Dryzek, 1997, Politics of the Earth

Robert Goodin, Green Political Theory (realo not fundo).
Ulrich Beck, e.g., *Risk Society* (Germany is the “greenest” country).
Anything by Beck, Dobson, Dryzek, Eckersley, Light, Plumwood.
See two anthologies for further bibliographies of green thought.

VI. Nov 1, Descriptive Approaches to Political Theory

*Required:*
- *Jon Elster, Ch. 3, Local Justice.*
- James Konow, Which is the Fairest One of All? [http://myweb.lmu.edu/jkonow/Which%20Fairest.pdf](http://myweb.lmu.edu/jkonow/Which%20Fairest.pdf)
- *Tom Tyler, excerpt from Social Justice in a Diverse Society*

*Further Reading:*
Jon Elster, *Closing the Books: Transitional Justice in Historical Perspective*.
Jon Elster, 1999, *Alchemies of the Mind*, Ch.V.
Clarissa Ryle Hayward, 2000, *Defacing Power*.
George Klosko, 2000, *Democratic Procedures and Liberal Consensus*.
Ernst Fehr, many major articles, [http://www.iew.unizh.ch/home/fehr/](http://www.iew.unizh.ch/home/fehr/)


VII. Nov. 8, Democratic Theory

*Required:*

- *Jon Elster, The Market and the Forum*
- *Mark Warren, “Deliberative Democracy”*
- John Dryzek, 2000, *Deliberative Democracy and Beyond*.

*Further Reading:*

Robert Dahl, *Democracy and its Critics*.
Robert Dahl, *How Democratic is the American Constitution*?
Philip Pettit, *Republicanism*.
Robert Goodin, *Reflective Democracy*.
Ian Shapiro, 2001, *Democratic Justice*.
Ian Shapiro, ed., *Democracy’s Boundaries*.
Mark Warren, *Democracy and Association*.
VIII. Nov. 15, Foundations; Voting

**Required:**
- *David Estlund, Beyond Fairness and Deliberation*
- *Brennan and Lomasky, Toward a Democratic Morality*
- *Alvin Goldman, A Causal Responsibility Approach to Voting*
- Brennan and Hamlin, *Democratic Devices and Desires*, Chapters 1-7 (Ch. 6 highly optional). May spill into next week.

**Further Reading:**
- Tom Christiano, *An Argument for Democratic Equality*
- Tom Christiano, *The Authority of Democracy*
- Brian Barry, *Is Democracy Special*
- Gutmann and Thompson, *The Persistence of Moral Disagreement*
- Dennis Thompson, *Just Elections*.
- Brennan and Lomasky, *Democracy and Decision*
- TBA

IX. Nov 22, Representation

**Required:**
- Geoffrey Brennan and Alan Hamlin, “Political Representation,” in *Democratic Devices and Desires*.
- *Nadia Urbinati, Representation as Advocacy,* Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0090-5917%28200012%2928%3A6%3C758%3ARAAASO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Q](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0090-5917%28200012%2928%3A6%3C758%3ARAAASO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Q)
- *Iris Marion Young, 2000, “Representation and Social Perspective,”* in her *Inclusion and Democracy*.

**Further Reading:**
- David Plotke, *Democracy is Representation*, *Constellations* 4:19-34.

X. Nov. 29, Is Political Theory Useless?

**Required:**
• *James Tully, 2004, “Political Philosophy as a Critical Activity,” in *What is Political Theory?*


• NOTE: Of the five empirical chapters in Spinosa (3,4) and Sabl (4,5,6), read a minimum of three altogether, and at least one from each book.

*Further Reading:*
Bruce Ackerman & Anne Alstott, 2000, *The Stakeholder Society*.
Bruce Ackerman & Ian Ayres, 2002, *Voting with Dollars*.
Michael Graetz and Ian Shapiro, 2005, *Death by a Thousand Cuts: The Fight Over Taxing Inherited Wealth*

*Internet Resources for Political Theory*

References
http://www.sussex.ac.uk/Users/sefd0/bib/polphil.htm World's largest political theory bibliography!

Links to links, political theory
http://dir.yahoo.com/Social_Science/Political_Science/Political_Theory/
http://bubl.ac.uk/link/p/politicalphilosophy.htm
http://www.eserver.org/govt/theory.html

Political theory digestes
http://www.politicaltheory.info/
http://www.politicalthought.com
http://www.bostonreview.net/ndf.html, New Democracy Forum, short debates on topical issues, informed by political theory.
http://www.aldaily.com/ (humanities)

Political theory blogs!
http://left2right.typepad.com/ Blog of quality political theorists
http://crookedtimber.org
http://lsolum.blogspot.com/ Excellent, legal theory emphasis
http://leiterreports.typepad.com/ Excellent, legal theory emphasis
http://www.thehappytutor.com/ ???

Philosophy
http://www.epistemelinks.com/ Similar, more focused.
http://ethics.acusd.edu/ Ethics resources, Hinman at USD.
http://reasonablereflection.net/buckinghaminquirer74/ Reviews "best of" philosophy blogs, and links to them.

Doctrines
http://www.libertarianism.com/
http://world.std.com/~mhuben/libindex.html Critiques of libertarianism
http://aran.univ-pau.fr/ee/ The Equality Exchange - egalitarianism
http://www.utilitarianism.com/
http://www.marxists.org/ http://www.magnolia.net/%7Eleonf/sd/sd.html Social dilemmas (mild game theory)
http://www.deliberative-democracy.net/
http://thataway.org/resources/understand/glossary.html Natl Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation
http://www.democracycollaborative.org/
http://www.extremedemocracy.com/ Cyberdemocracy
http://xtream.online.fr/china/references/why_democracy_is_wrong.html Another lone nonprofessional.

Political theory organizations
http://www.political-theory.org/> http://www.political-theory.org/ APSA Political Theory Section
http://organizations.oneonta.edu/apt/> http://organizations.oneonta.edu/apt/ Association for Political Theory
http://poltheory.uchicago.edu/asplp.html American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy
http://www.cspt.tulane.edu/ Same

LET ME KNOW ABOUT INTERESTING LINKS

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