Political Philosophy

1. Pre-requisites

Basics of philosophy, basics of logic, basics of the history of political thought.

2. Abstract

The course focuses on the contemporary analytical political philosophy. This type of political theory is preeminently practised and flourishes in the world-leading British and American universities like Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Stanford, Princeton etc. Rather than taking it as a particular way of thinking about politics, based on local realities, the courses treat this intellectual movement as the modern-day realization of Platonic ideal of philosophical power. The course discusses foundations, frameworks and methods of the analytical political philosophy, as well as the common topics and issues, like negative liberty, distributive justice, democracy, welfare, human rights and so on.

3. Recommended Reference Texts

Goodin, Robert, Pettit, Philip (ed.). A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy (Blackwell, 2007). [Cited below as Goodin 2007]
Shapiro, Ian (et al.). Problems and Methods in the Study of Politics. 2004

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### Reading Materials

1. **Introduction. Philosophy and Politics in 20th c.**
   - Pettit, Philip. *Why and How Philosophy Matters to Politics*

2. **Foundations 1. Consciousness. Intentionality. Mental Causation.**

   - Mulgan, Timothy. *Personhood in [Goodin 2007]*
   - Parfit, Derek. *Reasons and Persons.*

4. **Foundations 3. Rational agency. Free Will.**

5. **Foundations 4. Normativity and Rule-following.**

• Pettit, Philip. Part II. The Common Mind.


• Strawson, Peter. Freedom and Resentment.


• Hampton, Jean. Contract and Consent in [Goodin 2007]
• Scanlon, Thomas. What We Owe to Each Other, Harvard University Press (1998)


• Campbell, Tom. Legal Studies in [Goodin 2007]
• Ten, C. L. Constitutionalism and the Rule of Law in [Goodin 2007]


• Sen, Amartya and Williams, Bernard, eds., Utilitarianism and Beyond, Cambridge University Press, 1982

12. Liberty 1. Principles of non-frustration (Mill, Hobbes) and of non-interference (Berlin)


• Pettit, Philip. Republican Freedom: Three Axioms, Four Theorems.
14. Justice 1. Liberalism (Rawls)


- Haakonssen, Knud. Republicanism in [Goodin 2007]


- Gutmann, Amy. Democracy in [Goodin 2007]
- Scanlon, Thomas. When does equality matter? (Video, Youtube)

17. Issues 2. Human Rights


Wellman, Christopher. Responsibility: Personal, Collective, Corporate in [Goodin 2007]

20. Issues 5. International Relations and the Global Order

- Doyle, Michael. Sovereignty and Humanitarian Military Intervention in [Goodin 2007]
- Mcmahan, Jeff. Just War in [Goodin 2007]