

Philosophy 6. Introduction to political philosophy
MW 11-12:50

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It's a free country, or so they say. We'd like that to be true. What would a free society look like, and why should we try to make our society free? We'll study some answers to these questions defended by John Stuart Mill, Robert Nozick, and John Rawls.

The Mill book is at http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/m/mill/john_stuart/m645o/. The other readings will be posted at <http://ccle.ucla.edu/course/view/10W-PHILOS6-1> along with some notes for the lectures.

The written work for this course is two take-home writing assignments and an in-class final. Each homework, worth .3 of your grade, has four or five questions to be answered in single paragraphs and one or two questions to be answered in slightly longer essays. The exam has a similar shape and counts for .4 of the grade.

schedule

Jan 4	introduction	
Jan 6	John Stuart Mill, <i>On liberty</i> , chapter 1	
Jan 11	Mill, 2	
Jan 13	Mill, 2 continued	
Jan 20	Mill, 3	
Jan 25	Mill, 4	
Jan 27	Mill, 5	
Feb 1	Robert Nozick, <i>Anarchy, state, and utopia</i> , pp. 149-164	
Feb 3	Nozick, 149-164 continued	first homework due
Feb 8	Nozick, 26-35	
Feb 10	Nozick, 10-17 and 51-56	
Feb 17	Nozick, 167-173	
Feb 22	John Rawls, <i>A theory of justice</i> , sections 1 and 2	
Feb 24	Rawls, 3 and 4	second homework due
March 1	Rawls, 5	
March 3	Rawls, 12	
March 8	Rawls, 32 and 33	
March 10	Rawls, 82	
March 17	exam	