

PHILOSOPHY 339 A01 202209  
**THEORIES OF JUSTICE**

Dr. Cindy Holder  
[clholder@uvic.ca](mailto:clholder@uvic.ca)

Office Hours: Wed 2-4 pm  
or by appointment

Course Description

This course engages with contemporary approaches to and topics in justice as illustrated in the work of philosophers and political theorists. This year's course focuses on how theorists' conceptions of personhood, agency and materiality shape theories and analysis of justice and injustice.

Evaluation

Tests 25%  
Test #1: 10%, (handed out Sep 28 due Oct 7)  
Test#2: 15%, (handed out Oct 27, due Nov 4)

Short Writing Assignments 40%  
Assignment #1: 15% (available Sep 9, due Oct 25)  
Assignment #2: 25% (available Sep 9, due Nov 22)

10-12 page paper 35%  
(assignment sheet available Sep 9, due Dec 12)

**Late assignments will be penalized in the amount of 5% per day they are late to a maximum of 30%.** Exceptions to this penalty will only be considered in cases of serious and unforeseeable extenuating circumstances such as illness, accident or family emergency.

100-90 = A+, 85-89 = A, 80-84 = A-, 77-79 = B, 73-76 = B, 70-72 = B-, 65-69 = C+, 60-64 = C, 50-59 = D, 0-49 = F

N Grades

**Students who have completed the two writing assignments and the 10-12 page paper will be considered to have completed the course.** Failure to complete both writing assignments or to submit the 10-12 page paper will result in a grade of "N" regardless of the cumulative percentage on other elements of the course. N is a failing grade and factors into GPA as a value of 0.

Brightspace

A Brightspace page has been set up for this course. You may access it by signing in with your netlink id. This page will be used to post announcements, to:

- give you online access to coursepack readings, tests, the essay assignment sheet, powerpoints, and supplementary resources
- collect tests and the essay assignment

Please note that all **tests, the essay assignment sheet and all lecture notes and teaching materials posted to Brightspace are the intellectual property of myself and the University of Victoria.** Do not circulate this material or post it to note-sharing

sites without my permission. **Posting course materials to note-sharing sites or otherwise circulating course materials without the permission of your instructor violates the [Policy on Academic Integrity](#). Any evidence you are circulating materials without permission will be referred to the Chair of the Philosophy Department for investigation.**

#### Expectations Regarding Conduct

**All members of the university community have the right to experience, and the responsibility to help create, a respectful and supportive learning environment.**

These rights and the responsibilities are present both in interactions in person and online. Racism, sexualized violence, and any form of discrimination, bullying or harassment are not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

**By logging into UVic's learning systems and interacting with online resources you are engaging in a university activity. This means that your conduct is subject to [University policies](#) in those settings.**

Professionalism is expected from all students enrolled in courses in the Faculty of Humanities. As part of professionalism, students, faculty and staff are expected to be familiar with University policies, including the [Tri-Faculty's Standards for Professional Behaviour](#).

#### Academic Integrity

Any and all sources used in preparing work that is submitted for evaluation must be acknowledged. This includes websites and other students' work. **Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will not be tolerated.** Such conduct is contrary to the University's academic regulations and shows a profound lack of respect for me, for fellow students and for the university as an institution of higher learning.

**You are expected to read the University's [Policy on Academic Integrity](#). You can find it in the Undergraduate Calendar.** It is your responsibility to know and follow the University's regulations regarding academic integrity. Penalties for academic integrity violations are harsh and are applied as written.

For additional information about the University's expectations with respect to academic integrity and resources to help you meet those expectations, visit the [University's Academic Integrity page](#).

#### Academic Supports

The University has a number of academic support services that may help you in this course, including the [Centre for Academic Communication](#), the [Library's Research Anywhere site](#), and the [Library's "Ask Us" service](#). Information about academic supports can be found through the [University's Learn Anywhere site](#).

#### Academic Accommodations

The University of Victoria is committed to creating a learning experience that is as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience any barriers to learning in this course, please feel welcome to discuss your concerns with me. If you believe you will require academic accommodations to address barriers to your education in this course and you are not already registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL),

please do so using the [CAL registration process](#) . CAL is the office designated to make arrangements for accommodations. You can find information about academic accommodations through the [CAL website](#) .

### Texts

- Coursepack
- Rawls, John. 2001. Justice as Fairness: A Restatement. Erin Kelly, ed. Belknap Press: Cambridge, M.A.
- Young, Iris Marion. 2011. Responsibility for Justice. Oxford University Press: New York: NY
- Ahmed, Sara. 2019. What's the Use? On the Uses of Use. Duke University Press: Durham, NC

The three books are available through the bookstore. These should also be easy to order through local bookstores and online. The Coursepack readings can be found on Brightspace.

### Schedule

The following is a preliminary schedule. Readings and/or dates may change. All changes will be announced ahead of time.

You are expected to complete all the assigned readings, and to watch the assigned film.

#### Sep 8            **Introduction**

#### Sep 12-29      **History and Idea of Social Contract**

*Sep 12-15*

C. Holder, "Contractarianism" (Coursepack)

*Sep 19-29*

Jean Hampton, "Should Political Philosophy Be Done Without Metaphysics?", *Ethics* 99:4 (1989), 791-814. (Coursepack)

Charles Mills, "Ideal Theory as Ideology" *Hypatia* 20:3 (2005), 165-183. (Coursepack)

Carole Pateman, "Self-Ownership and Property in the Person: Democratization and a Tale of Two Concepts", *Journal of Political Philosophy* 10:1 (2002), 20-53. (Coursepack)

**Test #1 (worth 10%): handed out Sep 29 due Oct 7 before midnight PST**

#### Oct 3-Oct 17    **John Rawls, *Justice as Fairness***

*Justice as Fairness* Parts I, II, IV, V

**Short Writing Assignment #1: available Sep 9, due October 25 before midnight PST**

Oct 20-Oct 27 **Jurgen Habermas: Discourse Ethics and Deliberative Democracy**

Jurgen Habermas, "The Language Game of Responsible Agency and the Problem of Free Will: How can epistemic dualism be reconciled with ontological monism?" Joel Anderson, transl., *Philosophical Explorations* 10:1 (2007), 13-27. (Coursepack)

Jurgen Habermas, "Between Facts and Norms: An Author's Reflections", *Denver University Law Review* 76 (1998-1999), 937-942. (Coursepack)

Jurgen Habermas, "Constitutional Democracy: A Paradoxical Union of Contradictory Principles?" *Political Theory* 29:6 (2001), 766-781.

**Test #2 (worth 15%): handed out Oct 27, due Nov 4 before midnight PST**

Oct 31- Nov 14 **Iris Marion Young, *Responsibility for Justice***

*Responsibility for Justice*, Chapters 1-4, 6-7 (pp 3-122, 153-187)

**Short Writing Assignment #2:** available Sep 9, **due November 22 before midnight PST**

Nov 17-Dec 5 **Sara Ahmed, *What's the Use? On the Uses of Use***

*What's the Use?* Introduction, Chapters 1-3, Conclusion

**10-12 page paper:** available Sep 9, **due Dec 12 before midnight PST**