Pol 362: Global Justice

Professor Craig Borowiak
Office Hours: Tu 2:40 – 4:40 (or by appt.)
Office: Hall 214
Spring 2010

Class: Mondays, 1:30 – 4:00pm
Gest 102

This course considers some of the major political theoretical writings about issues of global justice. We will consider Immanuel Kant’s contribution to cosmopolitan theory. We will also be reading John Rawls’s *Law of Peoples*, along with scholarly reaction to it. We will address issues such as global poverty, military intervention, and environment justice.

**Response Papers (10%)**
Each week, each student will write a one-page, single-spaced analytic essay focusing on an interesting or problematic aspect of the week’s readings. These should not be summaries or reviews. Essays may be submitted in class or via Blackboard digital dropbox before class.

**Leading Class Discussion (10%)**
Each student will lead one class discussion. It will be the leader’s responsibility to make a 10-15 minute presentation on the assigned readings and to lead the ensuing discussion. The presentations should advance a critical line of argument; the goal is not to provide a summary or overview but rather to present an argument that critically engages the readings. This might include recapitulation of some main ideas (a sort of summary, but a selective one) to set up the argument or critique. The discussion should be based around a list of about five questions circulated to the entire class in advance (by 5pm the night before class). The questions should ensure that the discussion touches on all of the major points at issue in the week’s readings. The presentations will be graded on the basis of the quality of the critique, the quality of the presentation, and the quality of the discussion questions.

**Midterm Exam (30%) and Final Paper (35%)**
There will be a take-home midterm essay exam and a longer final paper (7000-8000 words). For the final paper, a paper proposal will be due in late March. You will present your proposal to the class.

**Participation (15%)**
This is a discussion-based seminar. Attendance is mandatory. The success of the class depends above all else upon your participation, including your willingness to share your questions, interests, ideas and energy, as well as your willingness to listen to the questions, interests, and ideas of others. Coming prepared to discuss what you’ve read will be indispensable. Since discussions tend to be more successful when participants take and defend positions, I encourage you to actively explore new arguments in the classroom—try them on, see how they fit, even if it means stepping out of character. If necessary, I will call on students to speak.
**Background Reading** (Not Required)

http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/international-justice/

“Cosmopolitanism” in *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* online.  
http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/cosmopolitanism/


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**COURSE SCHEDULE** (subject to change!)

**Thurs Jan 21**  
**Introduction**

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**Mon, Jan 25**  
**Realism and the Westphalian Order**  
Thucydides, The Melian Conference, from *The History of the Peloponnesian War* (c. 429–400 BCE), bk. V, paras. 84-116  
Hobbes, *Leviathan*, chs. 13-14, 17  
Stephen Krasner, “Globalization and Sovereignty” from *States and Sovereignty in the Global Economy* (35-52) (Blackboard)  
John Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, chaps. 1, 2

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**Mon, Feb 1**  
**Kant and Rawls**  
Immanuel Kant, “Perpetual Peace” At:  
<http://www.constitution.org/kant/perpeace.htm>(skip appendices)  
John Rawls, *Theory of Justice* (selections)  
Barry, *The Liberal Theory of Justice*, 128-133

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**Mon, Feb 8**  
**Law of Peoples**  
John Rawls, *Law of Peoples*

**Recommended**  
**Mon, Feb 15  **

**Cosmopolitanism**


O’Neill, Onora. “Distant strangers, moral standing and porous boundaries,” in *Bounds of Justice*, 186-202 (Blackboard)


Thomas Pogge, “Cosmopolitanism and Sovereignty” in *Ethics 103/1* (1992), 48-75

Martha Nussbaum, “Patriotism and Cosmopolitanism” in *For Love of Country* (Blackboard)

Kwame Anthony Appiah, “Constitutional Patriots” in *For Love of Country* (Blackboard)

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**Mon, Feb 22  **

**Nationalist and Communitarian critiques**

David Miller, Selected Readings

Alasdair MacIntyre, “Is Patriotism a Virtue?” Lindley Lecture (University of Kansas Philosophy Department, Lawrence, 1984).

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**Mon, Mar 1  **

**Global Poverty**

“Poverty and Inequality: A Question of Justice?,” *The Economist*, Mar. 11, 2004


Kwame Anthony Appiah, *Cosmopolitanism*, 155-174


**Recommended**

Thomas Pogge, “Economic Justice and National Borders” Revision, Fall 1999 v22 (2) p. 27-40


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**March 5 – 14  **

Spring Break
Mon, Mar 15  **Global Environment, Global Justice**  
Peter Singer, *One World*, Chapter Two  
Michael Mason, *The New Accountability: Environmental Responsibility Across Borders*  

*Friday, March 19. Kwame Anthony Appiah talk*

Mon, Mar 22  **Environmental Justice**  

TBA: Readings by Romand Coles, Robert Bullard, Saleem Ali, Paul Wapner  

*March 25-26 Workshop on Environmental Justice*

Mon, Mar 29  Student presentations of paper proposals

Mon, Apr 5  **Just war?**  
L. Tolstoy, “Letter to a Noncommissioned Officer” (Blackboard)  
Walzer, *Just and Unjust Wars* (selections)  
Jean Bethke Elshtain, *Just War Against Terror* (selections)  
BBC, Iraq Timeline

Mon, Apr 12  **Humanitarian Intervention**  
The *Responsibility to Protect* (Blackboard)  
Henry Shue, “Eroding Sovereignty: the advance of principle”  
Alex J. Bellamy, "Responsibility to Protect or Trojan Horse? The crisis in Darfur and Humanitarian Intervention after Iraq," *Ethics and International Affairs* (2005)  
Gareth Evans and Mohamed Sahnoun, "The responsibility to Protect," *Foreign Affairs, 81, no. 6* (2002), 99-110

Mon, Apr 19  **International Migration and Global Justice**  
Satvinder Singh Juss, *International Migration and Global Justice*, 1-68  
Michael Walzer, “On Membership”
Mon, Apr 26  **Critical Cosmopolitanism and Cognitive Justice**
Boaventura de Sousa Santos, “The World Social Forum as Counterhegemonic Globalization” (Blackboard)
Walter Mignolo, “the many faces of cosmo-polis: Border Thinking and Critical Cosmopolitanism” (Blackboard)
Enrique Dussel, *Philosophy of Liberation* (Selections)(Blackboard)
Linda Smith, *Decolonizing Methodologies* (Selections)(Blackboard)

**Recommended**
bell hooks ”Marginality” (Blackboard)
Boaventura de Sousa Santos, “Abysmal Thinking” (Blackboard)