

Political Science 8015

Global Justice

Hilary Term 2019 • Wednesday 9-11 • 3020 Arts Building

Instructor: Peter Stone

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Module Learning Aims:

As the third millennium begins, many of the most important moral problems facing the human race transcend national boundaries. Climate change, terrorism, migration, pandemics, human rights, humanitarian intervention—all raise questions that are difficult to answer in a purely national context. For this reason, the concerned moral agent increasingly needs to take on a **global** perspective.

Politics, in the words of the political scientist Harold Lasswell, is all about who gets what, when, and how. In that sense, all of these global problems are deeply political. Either they concern questions of who is entitled to what (rights, opportunities, material goods) or else they involve figuring out what to do when someone's entitlements are violated (through war or terrorism, for example). The moral principles that govern who gets what, when, and how are principles of **justice**. Addressing the moral problems of our day thus requires principles of **global justice**. These principles will be the focus of the module.

Module Content:

In this module, students will examine contemporary debates within political theory relating to global justice. Some of those debates address questions at a social level. What obligations does the First World have towards the Third? Other debates deal with questions of individual political obligation. If global poverty is unjust, how much money should I be giving to Oxfam? Each student will respond to each of these debates through a short response paper, then consider one of these debates in more detail by writing a seminar paper.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Distinguish between different types of questions relating to global justice.
- Demonstrate understanding of some different approaches used to address those questions.
- Apply this understanding to real-world problems of international relations.
- Make and criticize arguments regarding how our international system ought to function, and what our obligations in that system ought to be.

Reading List:

I have assigned the following five books for this module:

Draper, Kai. *War and Individual Rights*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016.

Martin, Rex and Reidy, David, eds. *Rawls's Law of Peoples: A Realistic Utopia?* Oxford: Blackwell, 2006.

Rawls, John. *The Law of Peoples*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1999.

Schaler, Jeffrey A., ed. *Singer under Fire: The Moral Iconoclast Faces His Critics*. Chicago: Open Court, 2009.

Singer, Peter. *The Life You Can Save: How to Do Your Part to End World Poverty*. Paperback ed. New York: Random House, 2010.

These books can be found on reserve at the Library.

Students should also make sure that they possess a good guide to grammar and style, as it will help them immensely with their writing. I recommend the following two works:

O'Conner, Patricia T. *Woe Is I: The Grammarphobe's Guide to Better English in Plain English*. New York: Riverhead Books, 1996.

Strunk, Jr., William and White, E.B. *The Elements of Style*. 4th ed. New York: Longman, 2000.

Students new to the subject matter of this module might wish to consult the introductory essays at <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/justice-global/> and <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/globalization/>. The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy is a very well-regarded source on topics relating to social and political philosophy.

The following additional books might also prove of interest:

Beitz, Charles R. *Political Theory and International Relations*. Rev. Ed. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1999.

Beitz, Charles R. *The Idea of Human Rights*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Caney, Simon. *Justice beyond Borders: A Global Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Pogge, Thomas W. *World Poverty and Human Rights*. Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2008.

Pojman, Louis P. *Global Political Philosophy*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2003.

Shue, Henry. *Basic Rights: Subsistence, Affluence, and U.S. Foreign Policy*. 2nd ed. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1996.

Singer, Peter. *One World: The Ethics of Globalization*. 2nd ed. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2004.

Assessment:

Students are expected to attend seminar each week and to participate in informed discussions of the readings. Participation will count for 10% of the grade.

Students are expected to submit short (approximately 250 words) papers in weeks 2-5 of the module on the readings for the week. These papers should be submitted through Turnitin. Each paper should make one (and only) one point about the readings. The point you make is up to you; you can attack one of the readings, defend it, relate two readings together, draw policy implications from the readings—you get the idea. Note that in weeks

2 and 4, an anthology of papers has been assigned. In these weeks, each student may elect either to write about a single paper in the anthology, or to make a point about some or all of the papers. Papers are due at 5 PM the day before the class in which the readings will be discussed. Each short paper counts for 5% of the grade.

Each student will, in either week 2 or week 4 of the module, give a short presentation on one of the papers in the assigned readings for the week. Each student should select one paper from the readings for either week 2 or week 4. Please note that you must inform me of your selection, which does not become official until I have approved it. No two students may present on the same paper. Students will select papers on a first come, first served basis. Students may, with my approval, swap papers if they so choose. The presentation will count for 10% of the grade.

Finally, each student will write a short seminar paper (10-15 pages). This paper will consist of a critical response to one or more of the papers in either of the following two symposia:

Little, Adrian and Macdonald, Terry. "Special Issue: Real -World Justice and International Migration." *European Journal of Political Theory* 14:4 (2015).

Culp, Julian; Jugov, Tamara; Ronzoni, Miriam; and Valentini, Laura. "Global Justice and Non-Domination." *Global Justice: Theory, Practice, Rhetoric* 9:1 (2016).

As with the short weekly papers, the seminar paper must make a point in response to one or more papers in the symposium. A student may, with the instructor's permission, select an original topic for the paper. The seminar paper will count for 60% of the course grade.

All papers must be submitted through Turnitin. I will provide instruction on the submission process after the class begins.

Course Website:

The course has a page at Blackboard. Please make sure you are signed up for it.

Plagiarism and Academic Standards:

Students should be familiar with what plagiarism is, and avoid it like the plague.

Plagiarism—defined by the University as the act of presenting the work of others as one’s own work, without acknowledgement—is unacceptable under any circumstances. Students are referred to Part III, Section 1.32 of the College Calendar for advice on avoiding plagiarism, including through carelessness. The Calendar entry on plagiarism is at <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/calendar>. Penalties will apply if these rules are violated.

Students should consult the University’s webpage on plagiarism, which can be found at <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism>. All students must complete the online tutorial on avoiding plagiarism which can be found on this webpage. The tutorial will generate a coversheet, which should be attached to all written work submitted in the course.

It is essential that the source for your material is always clear to the reader. This does not apply only to direct quotes from a book or article; it applies to any point taken directly from something that you have read. Paraphrasing the work of others and presenting it without attribution as your own is unacceptable—a citation must be given. You should be sure that (i) direct quotes are always enclosed in quotation marks so that it is clear that you are not claiming to have written the phrases yourself; (ii) you always give the source of ideas and facts, including the precise page reference; and (iii) you cite your sources, not your source’s sources. In other words, if you read a book published in 2014 and it contains a quote from a book published in 1964, make it clear that you discovered the point in the 2014 book—don’t give the impression that you consulted the 1964 book and found the quote yourself.

Students must also ensure that academic work submitted for each module is “new work”, i.e., it has not been previously submitted for other modules at Trinity or elsewhere.

Class Schedule:

Please note that this schedule is subject to revision.

Week 1 (Wednesday, 23 January): Module Introduction & Global Distributive Ethics

Readings: Peter Singer (entire).

For an introduction to the topic, please see

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/cosmopolitanism/> and

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/principle-beneficence/>. You might also find the following

useful: <http://bostonreview.net/forum/peter-singer-logic-effective-altruism>.

Week 2 (Wednesday, 30 January): Global Distributive Ethics, Continued

Readings: Schaler (ed.).

Week 3 (Wednesday, 6 February): Global Distributive Justice

Readings: Rawls (entire).

For short introductions to this topic, please see

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/international-justice/> and

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/rawls/#LawPeoLibForPol>. For a more detailed

introduction Rawls and his critics, please consult the entire essay at

<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/rawls/>.

Week 4 (Wednesday, 13 February): Global Distributive Justice, Continued

Readings: Martin and Reidy (eds.).

Week 5 (Wednesday, 20 February): Just War Theory

Readings: Draper (entire).

For an introduction to this topic, see <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/war/>.

For further reading: G.E.M. Anscombe, "War and Murder" and "Mr. Truman's Degree." Both in *Ethics, Religion and Politics: The Collected Philosophical Papers of G.E.M. Anscombe. Volume Three*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1981.

Seminar Papers Due: Friday, 8 March