

PIU 22062 — TEXTS II

Module Information	
Module Code	PIU22062
Module Title	Texts II
Department	Philosophy
Year Group	Senior Freshman
Module Personnel	Dr. James Levine Dr. Adina Preda
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	10 ECTS
Semester	2
Contact Hours	22 hours

Module Content	
Module Description	Component 1—<i>The Objects of Thought</i> by Tim Crane. Tim Crane's 2013 book <i>The Objects of Thought</i> is concerned with the issue (sometimes called the issue of intentionality) of what is it to think about an object. Crane distinguishes between two views on the topic—the relational view of intentionality, according to which in order to think about an object, there must (in reality) be that object for us to think about; and the non-relational view, according to which thinking about an object does not require that there is (in reality) an object for us to think about. Crane defends a non-relational theory; we will examine his arguments for that view and the consequences of it.

Module Content	
	Component 2—<i>A Theory of Justice</i> by John Rawls. <i>A Theory of Justice</i>, first published in 1971, is the most influential text in contemporary political philosophy. It sets out a liberal egalitarian theory of distributive justice, that has been the subject of debate ever since.
Module Learning Aims	The aim of component 1 is to use Crane's text as a way to understand a fundamental divide between two approaches to the nature of intentionality and to understand how issues regarding intentionality are related to other issues (including issues in the philosophy of mind and in logic). The aim of component 2 is to introduce students to the most influential text in contemporary political philosophy, thus preparing them for senior level modules in this area of philosophy.
Learning Outcomes	Component 1 learning outcomes: —Be able to distinguish relational from non-relational theories of intentionality. —Be able to distinguish different aspects of Crane's position and his arguments for it. —Be able to assess Crane's arguments for his view and present and defend their own arguments pertaining to these issues. Component 2 learning outcomes: —Be familiar with the main principles of John Rawls's theory of justice. —Understand the main argument(s) for these principles. —Understand the place of a theory of justice within a broader moral theory. —Be able to explain and assess key arguments in this text.
Indicative Reading / Resources	Component 1: Tim Crane, <i>The Objects of Thought</i>. Component 2: John Rawls, <i>A Theory of Justice</i>.

Assessment	
Assessment Components	Two essays (25% each). Two hour in-person exam (50%).



Assessment

Assessment Details

Students are required to write an essay, and answer an exam question, on each component.

Additional Information

Prerequisites

None.

Co-requisites

None.