

PIU 33173 — Political Philosophy

Module Information	
Module Code	PIU33173
Module Title	Political Philosophy
Department	Philosophy
Year Group	Junior Sophister
Module Personnel	Dr. Adina Preda
Academic Year	2026–27
Credit Weighting	5 ECTS
Semester	1
Contact Hours	2 lectures per week

Module Content	
Module Description	This module will examine the main theories of distributive or social justice in contemporary analytical political philosophy. Distributive justice is about the fair distribution of burdens and benefits in a society and some of the main approaches to this issue that we will look at are liberal egalitarianism, libertarianism (left and right), luck egalitarianism, and relational egalitarianism. We will also look at some of the critiques, alternative approaches, and applications of these theories to areas like health and education.
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module, students will be able to: • Understand, explain and assess the main contemporary theories of distributive/ social justice. • Offer and assess different arguments about justice and fairness. Apply the theories and arguments studied to different domains of justice.
Indicative Reading / Resources	• Matthew Clayton & Andrew Williams (eds.) – Social Justice, Blackwell Publishing, 2004. • Iwao Hirose – Egalitarianism, Routledge, 2015.

Module Content

- Serena Olsaretti (ed.) – The Oxford Handbook of Distributive Justice, Oxford University Press, 2018.

Assessment

Assessment Components

Exam.

Assessment Details

In-person 3-hour exam, worth 100%.

Additional Information

Prerequisites

None.

Co-requisites

None.

Any other information

Note that this is a philosophy module, so it deals with philosophical questions of justice and fairness and less with policy implications; moreover, some familiarity with an analytic philosophical approach is expected.