Philosophy Department

THE JUST SOCIETY

PROFESSOR: Chris Latiolais
Humphrey House #202 Office Hours: 1) Tuesday, 10:00 - 12:00. 2) Wed. 10:00 - 11:00. 3) By Appointment (337-7076).

COURSE GOALS:
This course is an introduction to the current debates in political philosophy between communitarian and the universalist theories of justice. Special emphasis will be placed upon the "politics of difference" -- that is, the attempt to conceive of justice in terms of the mutual recognition of diverse, morally integrated groups.

EVALUATION:
Students will be evaluated on the basis of class participation, three midterm examinations and a final, comprehensive examination.

Class Participation, seminar presentations, and discussion=30%
Midterm examinations 3 @ 15% each=45%
Final Examination 1 @ 25=25%

POLICIES:
Open, respectful and critical discussion is the life-blood of this course. The midterm examinations test comprehension of historical material, technical terminology, philosophical positions and critical arguments. The final examination is a comprehensive review of course material, with an emphasis upon later course material. 3 unexcused absences will result in a full grade reduction.

TEXTS:

READING SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE
MON, JUNE 20TH: Course Mechanics.

STATEMENT OF THE CLASSIC LIBERAL-COMMUNITARIAN DEBATE:

WED, JUNE 22ND:
THUR, JUNE 23RD:
1. *Aristotle*: A Life of Virtue (*Nichomachean Ethics*).

FRI, JUNE 24TH:

RAWLSIAN LIBERALISM AND ITS CRITICS:

WEEK TWO
MON, JUNE 27TH:
1. *Charles* Taylor: The Modern Identity (*"Alternative Futures"").

WED, JUNE 29TH:

THURS, JUNE 30TH:

FRI, JULY 1ST: Examination #1.

WEEK THREE
MON, JULY 4TH: HOLIDAY

WALZER'S AND MACINTYRE'S APPROACHES TO COMMUNITARIANISM:

WED, JULY 6TH:

THURS, JULY 7TH:
1. *Donald* Dworkin *and Michael* Walzer: To Each His Own: An Exchange on Spheres of Justice.

FRI, JULY 8TH:

CITIZENSHIP IN A DEMOCRATIC COMMUNITY:

WEEK FOUR
MON, JULY 11TH:

WED, JULY 13TH:

THURS, JULY 14TH:

FRI, JULY 15TH:

WOMEN IN THE FAMILY AND IN PUBLIC LIFE: THE LEGACY OF THE PUBLIC/PRIVATE DISTINCTION

WEEK FIVE
MON, JULY 18TH:
1. Christina Hoff Sommers: Philosophers Against the Family (Person to Person, 1989).

WED, JULY 20TH:

THURS, JULY 21ST:
Carol Gould: "Feminism and Democratic Community Revisited" (1993).

FRI, JULY 22ND: Examination #2.

THE POLITICS OF DIFFERENCE: YOUNG'S CRITIQUE OF TRADITIONAL THEORIES OF JUSTICE:

WEEK SIX
MON, JULY 25TH:
1. Young, "Displacing the Distributive Paradigm."

WED, JULY 27TH:
1. Young, "Displacing the Distributive Paradigm" (Cont.)

THURS, JULY 28TH:
1. Young, "Five Faces of Oppression."

FRI, JULY 29TH: Review

WEEK SEVEN
MON, AUG. 1ST:
1. Young, "Insurgency and the Welfare Capitalist Society."

WED, AUG. 3RD:
1. Young, "Insurgency and the Welfare Capitalist Society" (Cont.).

THURS, AUG. 4TH:
1. Young, "The Ideal of Impartiality and the Civic Public."

FRI, AUG. 5TH: Examination #3.

WEEK EIGHT
MON, AUG 8TH:
1. Young, "The Scaling of Bodies and the Politics of Identity."
WED, AUG 10TH:
1. Young, "The Scaling of Bodies and the Politics of Identity."

**CRITIQUE OF THE POLITICS OF DIFFERENCE: NORMATIVE DEFICITS AND NEO-CONSERVATISM**

THURS, AUG. 11TH:
1. Seyla Benhabib: "Communicative Ethics and the Claims of Gender, Community and Postmodernism."

FRI, AUG 12TH:

**WEEK NINE**

MON, AUG 15TH:
1. Seyla Benhabib: "Autonomy, Modernity and Community" (Cont.).

WED, AUG 17TH:
1. "Models of Public Sphere."

THURS, AUG. 18TH:
1. "Models of Public Sphere" (Cont.).

FRI, AUG 19TH: Review

**THE DISCOURSE THEORY OF JUSTICE: THE SOVEREIGNTY OF PEOPLES**

**WEEK TEN**

MON, AUG 22ND:

WED, AUG 24TH: continued

THURS, AUG. 25TH: continued

FRI, AUG. 26TH: Student Evaluations.

**FINAL EXAMINATION.**