

# ARTS2384

Political Philosophy

Term 2, 2022



## Course Overview

### Staff Contact Details

#### Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Jeremy Moss	<a href="mailto:jmoss@unsw.edu.au">jmoss@unsw.edu.au</a>			

### School Contact Information

School of Humanities & Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Tel: 02 9348 0406

Email: [hal@unsw.edu.au](mailto:hal@unsw.edu.au)

## Acknowledgement of Country

UNSW Arts, Design and Architecture Kensington and Paddington campuses are built on Aboriginal Lands. We pay our respects to the Bidjigal and Gadigal peoples who are the Custodians of these lands. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the First Australians, whose lands, winds and waters we all now share, and pay respect to their unique values, and their continuing and enduring cultures which deepen and enrich the life of our nation and communities.



Image courtesy of the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous [UNSW's Indigenous strategy](#)

## Course Details

### Units of Credit 6

### Summary of the Course

The course provides you with an opportunity to gain an understanding of key topics in political philosophy such as: distributive justice, the role and limits of freedom, personal responsibility and the duties that we have to others. We will focus in particular on the issue of whether justice should be thought of as global or whether it should apply solely within nation states. We will consider justifications for conceptions of global justice as well as nationalist challenges. Throughout the course we will link the philosophical arguments to issues such as global poverty, pandemics or cultural differences. This will allow you to develop an understanding of the role of political philosophy in assessing solutions to major public problems and debates.

### Course Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and expound major theories and arguments in political philosophy
2. Apply philosophical concepts to existing and proposed political institutions
3. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of philosophical approaches to political union and the limits of government
4. Communicate and debate complex ideas
5. Demonstrate skills of scholarly inquiry associated with the study of philosophy

### Teaching Strategies

The purpose of this course is to provide you with a solid grounding in political philosophy through an engagement with key thinkers in the discipline. The course is structured around weekly readings, lectures and tutorial discussions. Each week there will normally be a three-hour lecture followed by a one-hour discussion-based tutorial. As philosophy is a discipline that values independent questioning, student participation is encouraged in both the lectures and tutorials. Lectures will cover central themes and arguments in political philosophy and will relate them to their historical background. Tutorials will be problem-based and will involve large- and small-group discussions. In the tutorials we will consider the contemporary relevance of the theories and positions set out in the course readings. You will be expected to prepare for class discussions by completing the set readings. By means of the readings, assessment tasks and group discussions you will develop your ability to read, analyse, criticise, discuss, and interpret philosophical texts. On-line discussion fora will be set up each week so that you can continue to engage with the issues of the courses with your peers.

## Assessment

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Course Learning Outcomes Assessed
1. Essay 1	40%	24/06/2022 04:00 PM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
2. Essay 2	60%	11/08/2022 04:00 PM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

### Assessment 1: Essay 1

**Due date:** 24/06/2022 04:00 PM

Students write a research essay - 1500 words.

Feedback will take the form of individual written comments.

### Assessment 2: Essay 2

**Due date:** 11/08/2022 04:00 PM

Students write a research essay - 2500 words.

Feedback will take the form of individual written comments.

## Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

## Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

### Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 30 May - 3 June	Lecture	This week provides an introduction to the role of political philosophy in analysing major social issues, especially global issues.
Week 2: 6 June - 10 June	Lecture	We will continue our discussion of global justice, and consider what obligations we—as individuals—may have to provide aid to those who are less fortunate.
Week 3: 13 June - 17 June	Lecture	We will discuss the nationalist challenge to global justice.
Week 4: 20 June - 24 June	Lecture	This week we will consider issues of cross cultural difference.
	Assessment	Essay 1
Week 5: 27 June - 1 July	Lecture	This week we will continue our exploration of the implications of global justice.
Week 6: 4 July - 8 July	Reading	Flex week
Week 7: 11 July - 15 July	Lecture	This week we will consider geoengineering.
Week 8: 18 July - 22 July	Lecture	We will discuss whether the individual ghgs emitted by individuals make a difference to climate change and what to do about it.
Week 9: 25 July - 29 July	Lecture	We will discuss the ethics of war, including how Just War Theory attempts to provide (1) the conditions for entering into a war; and (2) restrictions on conduct within a war.
Week 10: 1 August - 5 August	Lecture	Focussing on one particular dimension of war, we will consider when—if ever—torture can be morally justified.

## **Resources**

### **Prescribed Resources**

Students will have access to all required readings via Moodle.

### **Recommended Resources**

Useful additional resources will be provided during the course.

### **Course Evaluation and Development**

Student feedback will be sought throughout the course in the form of direct questions and short surveys. Feedback will be analysed on an on going basis and any relevant course alterations undertaken.

## **Submission of Assessment Tasks**

### **Turnitin Submission**

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on [externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au](mailto:externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au) . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>



## Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

### UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

**Copying:** Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.

**Inappropriate paraphrasing:** Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

**Collusion:** Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

**Inappropriate citation:** Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

**Duplication ("self-plagiarism"):** Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

### Correct referencing practices

The [UNSW Academic Skills support](#) offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library has [the ELISE tool](#) available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study. Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

## **Academic Information**

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided.)

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>

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