

Fall 2021
Social and Political Philosophy
Philosophy 336—01

Professor:

Charles Joshua Horn, Ph.D.

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Office Location: CCC 418

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, 1:30pm—2:00pm; Friday, 10:00am—11:00am; By Appointment

Zoom Office Hours: Tuesday, 9:30am—10:30am; By Appointment

<http://charlesjhorn.webstarts.com/index.html>

Course Information:

Class Time: MW, 9:30am—10:45pm

Class Location: CCC 126

Course Description:

Perhaps the two most significant political discussions in the 21st century have revolved around the war on terror and the drastic inequality in the global sphere. This course will draw on both historical and contemporary sources to try to better understand the nature of these issues. This fall marks the 20th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Despite the importance of terrorism on US foreign and domestic policy since those attacks, there is wide disagreement on how we are to understand it. As a result of this confusion, the first part of the class will focus on the philosophical difficulty of defining terrorism and what that confusion means for policy decisions. We will also examine whether terrorism is ever morally permitted and what lines may or may not be crossed in fighting this distinctive kind of warfare. In the second part of the class, we will turn our attention to the different manifestations of inequality, including political, economic, sexual, and racial inequality. The goal will be to try to better understand whether certain kinds of inequality are permissible, the justification for these systems, and what we may do in the face of such struggle and oppression.

Text:Purchase:

1. [CaD] *Contract and Domination*, Pateman, Mills
Polity
ISBN: 978-0745640044
2. [OI] *On Inequality*, Frankfurt
Princeton
ISBN: 978-0691167145

Rental:

1. [PP] *Political Philosophy, 3rd Ed*, Cahn
Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780190201081
2. [TPI] *Terrorism: A Philosophical Investigation*, Primoratz
Polity
ISBN #: 978-0-7456-5144-6

Expectations:

Students are expected to check into Canvas daily in order to check for class announcements, complete assignments, use the discussion board, etc. Students are expected to attend every class and remain for the entire time. Do not come late or leave early. Students must complete the necessary readings prior to class and be prepared for discussion and participation. Students will treat other students with respect. This means, turning off all electrical equipment, including cell phones, laptops, and tablets. Students must also address their peers in a respectful tone. It is important to note that the nature of this class will inevitably result in disagreements among colleagues; however, it is essential to maintain respect toward one another despite disagreement.

Face Coverings: At all UW-Stevens Point campus locations, the wearing of face coverings is mandatory in all buildings, including classrooms, laboratories, studios, and other instructional spaces. Any student with a condition that impacts their use of a face covering should contact the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center](#) to discuss accommodations in classes. Please note that unless everyone is wearing a face covering, in-person classes cannot take place. This is university policy and not up to the discretion of individual instructors. Failure to adhere to this requirement could result in formal withdrawal from the course.

Other Guidance: Please monitor your own health each day using [this screening tool](#). If you are not feeling well or believe you have been exposed to COVID-19, do not come to class; email your instructor and contact Student Health Service (715-346-4646). As with any type of absence, students are expected to communicate their need to be absent and complete the course requirements as outlined in the syllabus.

- Maintain a minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from others whenever possible.
- Do not congregate in groups before or after class; stagger your arrival and departure from the classroom, lab, or meeting room.
- Wash your hands or use appropriate hand sanitizer regularly and avoid touching your face.
- Please maintain these same healthy practices outside the classroom.

Course Goals:

By carefully examining historical and contemporary problems in western political theory, students will develop critical thinking skills and be able to analytically engage complex material by learning to read closely, argue persuasively, and communicate effectively.

Academic Integrity:

Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism or helping others to commit these acts will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty will result in severe disciplinary action including, but not limited to, failure of the student assessment item or course, and/or dismissal from the University.

Academic integrity violations include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise. This definition includes unauthorized communication of information during an academic exercise.
- 2) Fabrication and Falsification: Intentional and unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification is a matter of inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.
- 3) Multiple Submissions: The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work for credit (including oral reports) more than once without authorization.
- 4) Plagiarism: Intentionally or knowingly presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source). The sole exception to the requirement is when the ideas, information, etc., is common knowledge.
- 5) Complicity in Academic Dishonesty: Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.

Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>

Disability Information:

Students with disabilities should register with the ADA coordinator on campus and let me know at the beginning of the semester. I would be happy to accommodate you in any way that I can. Just let me know. More information can be found at:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/ADA/rightsADAPolicyInfo.pdf>

Intellectual Property Notice:

Lecture materials and recordings for Philosophy 336 are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

Grading Criteria:

Assignments can be made up beyond the due dates for both unexcused and excused absences. For unexcused absences, a late penalty may be imposed. Late work must be complete within one week of the assignment due date.

Canvas will automatically calculate and update grades as the semester progresses. To determine your current grade in the class, take the score in the “Total” column and divide by 100. If there are still remaining assignments left, add the remaining points possible to your points earned to see the best-case scenario for your grade. Then use the grading scale below. The goal for the class is to try to earn as many points as possible. Any points earned over these 100 points will count as extra credit. Final grades will be calculated based upon the following.

1. Two Essays: 60 Points Total
 - a. Essay prompts will be given out one week before the due date. Each essay should be roughly 1,250 words (5 double-spaced pages) with other standard formatting. Additional details will be provided on the essay prompts.
2. One Class Introduction: 20 Points Total
 - a. Each student must individually introduce a reading from the course schedule. Each presentation should last around 10-15 minutes. The presentation is *not* a summary of the material. Instead, it is a way to offer your own analysis about the reading. Presentations will be chosen on the first day of class.
3. One Final Project: 20 Points Total
 - a. In the last two weeks of class, students will work in small groups to present on a topic related to terrorism or inequality. Each group will have roughly 30—35 minutes of class to both introduce, explain, and analyze their topic. Additional details will be provided on a separate prompt.
4. One “Philosophy at UWSP” Bonus Quiz 5 Points Total
 - a. There will be a short quiz on the advantages of studying philosophy at UWSP!

“Pass” Range			“Fail” Range	
(70—100 Points)			(<70 Points)	
“A” Range	“B” Range	“C” Range	“D” Range	“F” Range
	B+ (87—89)	C+ (77—79)	D+ (67—69)	F (<60)
A (94—100)	B (84—86)	C (74—76)	D (60—66)	
A- (90—93)	B- (80—83)	C- (70—73)		

Course Schedule:**Part I: The Nature and Morality of Terrorism**

Week 2	(September 5—September 11)	
September 6	Academic Holiday	
September 8	Syllabus/Course Introduction	
Week 3	(September 12—September 18)	
September 13	Chapter 1: Defining Terrorism	TPI, 7—29
September 15	Chapter 2: State Terrorism and Counterterrorism	TPI, 30—46
Week 4	(September 19—September 25)	
September 20	Chapter 3: Complicity of the Victims	TPI, 47—64
September 22	Chapter 4: The Consequences of Terrorism	TPI, 65—83
Week 5	(September 26—October 2)	
September 27	Chapter 5: Terrorism, Rights, and Justice	TPI, 84—94
September 29	Chapter 6: Terrorism, Supreme Emergency, and Moral Disaster	TPI, 95—113
Week 6	(October 3—October 9)	
October 4	Chapter 7: Is Terrorism Morally Distinctive?	TPI, 114—125

Unit II: Inequality in the Ancient World

October 6	Plato	Republic III, IV	PP, 67—79
Week 7	(October 10—October 16)		
October 11	Terrorism Essay Due		
	Aristotle	Nicomachean Ethics	PP, 143—153
October 13	Aristotle	Nicomachean Ethics	PP, 153—165
Week 8	(October 17—October 23)		
October 18	Aristotle	Politics	PP, 165—197
October 20	Aristotle	Politics	PP, 197—222

Unit III: Inequality and the State in Modernity

Week 9	(October 24—October 30)		
October 25	Hobbes	Leviathan	PP, 313—343
October 27	Locke	Second Treatise on Government	PP, 365—393
Week 10	(October 31—November 6)		
November 1	Rousseau	Origin of Inequality	PP, 422—437
November 3	Rousseau	The Social Contract	PP, 437—465
Week 11	(November 7—November 13)		
November 8	Marx	Communist Manifesto	PP, 714—726
November 10	Nietzsche	Beyond Good and Evil	PP, 829—840

Unit IV: Racial, Sexual, and Economic Inequality

Week 12	(November 14—November 20)	
November 15	Pateman, Mills	Contract and Social Change CaD, 10—34
November 17	Pateman	The Settler Contract CaD, 35—78
Week 13	(November 21—November 27)	
November 22	Mills	The Domination Contract CaD, 79—105
November 24	Frankfurt	On Inequality OI, 1—89

Unit V: Final Projects

Week 14	(November 28—December 4)
November 29	Group 1, 2
December 1	Inequality Essay Due
	Group 3, 4
Week 15	(December 5—December 11)
December 6	Group 5, 6
December 8	Group 7, 8
Week 16	(December 12—December 18)
	Course Evaluations
	Extra Credit Quiz!