



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
PHIL*6600 MAJOR TEXTS IN PHILOSOPHY
FALL 2013, MON. 11:30-2:20

COURSE OUTLINE

(Please read the outline carefully and hold on to it for future reference)

Professor: Omid Payrow Shabani
Office: MacKinnon 327
Phone: x 53201
Email: oshabani@uoguelph.ca
Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 10:30-11:30

Course Description:

Critical Theory has been a very productive ground in philosophy since its inception with the Frankfurt School. The work of its main founders—Horkheimer, Adorno, Marcuse, etc.—has exerted significant influence on the work of more recent philosophers particularly in the continent. This influence continued unabated with the work of the second generation critical theorists like Habermas and his sizable body of work. More recently the third generation of Frankfurt Schoolers, like Rainer Forst, have been making their own contribution to this tradition. Forst's *The Right to Justification* is an important effort to address anew some of the basic moral and political questions with excitingly fresh results that is worth exploring in depth. In this course we will be closely examining Forst argument for the right to Justification.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course the students will have gained competence in discussing such issues as:

- The tradition of Critical Theory and Frankfurt School.
- The justification of human rights.
- The implications of the right to justification for our moral relations.
- The implication of the right to justification for our political life together.

Required Textbook:

-Rainer Forst, *The Right to Justification*, Columbia University Press, 2012.

Suggested Reading:

-Stephen Eric Bronner, *Critical Theory: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press, 2011.

- Max Horkheimer, *Critical Theory: Selected Essays*, Continuum International Publishing Group, 2002.
- Stephen Eric Bronner, *Critical Theory: A Very Short Story*, Oxford University Press,
- David Ingram, *Critical Theory: Essential Read*, Snippet view, 1992.
- David Hoy, Thomas McCarthy, Thomas Anthony McCarthy (eds.), *Critical Theory*, 1994
- David Rasmussen (ed.), *The Handbook of Critical Theory*, MIT Press, 1999.
- Fred Rush (ed.), *Cambridge Companion to Critical theory*, Cambridge University Press, 2004
<http://www.iep.utm.edu/frankfur/>

Course Evaluation:

1) Critical Summary	15%
2) 2 Presentation	40%
3) Participation	10%
4) Final Paper	35%

1) **Critical Summary:** The critical summary assignment is a one-page single-spaced text, in which the students should capture the gist of the assigned reading for the scheduled reading. At the end of the summary you should have a critical question that you would ask the presenter. Each CS is 1.5. We have 12 class and you have to hand in at least 10 summaries to get the maximum of 15%.

2) **Presentation:** The assignment and schedule of presentations will be decided at the time of the first class. The presenter should aim for 30-40 minutes of presentation time. The presenter should send me the text of their presentation by noon a day before the class. Failure to do so will result in severe penalty.

3) **Participation:** the mark will be decided based on students' engagement with the material and the class.

4) **Final Paper:** The paper should be 3000-3200 words long (give word count at the end) and written with font size number 12 in Chicago Style. The Final paper is due on Monday 2, Dec.

Rules:

-Make up assignment is allowed with proper medical documentation otherwise the mark of zero will be entered in your class record.

-Your final paper is due by noon on Monday 6, Dec. Extension will be granted with proper justificatory documentation.

-No cell phone use, no texting in class room.

-No taping or recording of any type in the class without the expressed permission of the instructor.

Class Schedule:

WEEK I:

Mon., Sep. 9: Introduction and presentation assignments

WEEK II:

Mon., Dec. 16: Practical Reason and Justifying Reason: on the Foundation of Morality, p.13

WEEK III:

Mon., Sep. 23: Moral Autonomy and the Autonomy of Morality, p.43

WEEK IV:

Mon., Sep. 30: Ethics and Morality, p. 62

WEEK V:

Mon., Oct. 7: The Justice of Justice: Rawls' Political Liberalism and Habermas', 79

WEEK VI:

Mon., Oct. 14: THANKSGIVING, NO CLASSES

WEEK VII

Mon., Oct. 21: Political Liberty: Integrating five Conception of Autonomy, p. 125

WEEK VIII:

Mon., Oct. 28: A Critical Theory of Multicultural Toleration, p. 138

WEEK IX:

Mon., Nov. 4: The Rule of Reasons: Three Models of Deliberative Democracy, p. 155

WEEK X:

Mon., Nov. 11: Social Justice, Justification and Power, p. 188

WEEK XI:

Mon., Nov. 18: The Basic Right to Justification, p. 203

Week XII:

Mon., Nov. 25: Construction of Transnational Justice, p.229

WEEK XIII: Make up class for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Mon. Dec. 2: Justice and Power in the Global Context (241) & Toward a Critical theory of Transnational Justice, p.251

Monday, 6, December: the paper is due: I'll be in my office collecting them until 12:00. Any paper that is not received by then will be penalized 5 marks per day.

8 Standard Statements of the College of Arts, FALL 2013

E-mail Communication

As per University regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the university and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Drop Date

The last date to drop one-semester Fall 2013 courses, without academic penalty, is **Thursday October 31**. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Copies of out-of-class assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Each student at the University of Guelph has rights which carry commensurate responsibilities that involve, broadly, being a civil and respectful member of the University community. The Rights and Responsibilities are detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c14/c14-strightsrespon.shtml>

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and enjoins all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded in any electronic media without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer.

Resources

The Undergraduate Calendar is the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate programs. It can be found at:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/>

If you find yourself in difficulty, contact the undergraduate advisor in your program, or the BA Counselling Office: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/baco/contact.shtml>