

PHIL*1010-01 INTRO. PHILOSOPHY: SOCIAL & POLITICAL ISSUES [0.50]

Instructor: K. Freedman

Brief Course Synopsis:

This course is an introduction to philosophy through the study of social and political issues. Our aim will be to become familiar with the central theories in contemporary political philosophy, such as liberalism, communitarianism, feminism and multiculturalism. We will examine these theories in an effort to help us better understand and respond to a variety of social problems facing us today; in particular, we will try to find an answer to the question "what does it mean for governments to show 'equal concern and respect' to their citizens?" Other issues to be addressed include the balance between rights and freedoms, the relationship between citizenship and group diversity, and the idea of a 'politics of difference.'

Textbook:

Will Kymlicka, *Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Introduction*, 2nd Edition: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Evaluation: TBA