PHIL*3230 ISSUES IN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY [0.50]

Instructor: Dr. J. Harvey

Brief Course Synopsis:
In this course we will consider connections between issues to do with property (e.g., a claimed “right to property”) and other important moral questions. For example, issues to do with property have serious implications for moral questions to do with the following: consumerism, health care, capitalism, the environment, national parks, animal ethics, intellectual property, simplicity of life-style and character, disparities in international resources, international aid, distribution of wealth, and more. We will examine some of these contexts, drawing on some selections from historical philosophical work and also more contemporary writings.

Required Readings: (It may have to be via readings on reserve or with electronic access, since so far there seems to be no good text in print with the appropriate focus.)

Evaluation:
Students are advised that attending all classes, keeping detailed lecture notes, and working on those notes (in ways that will be explained) are crucial in achieving a passing grade in the course, and each student is responsible for taking and working on his/her own detailed class-notes. The class-content is the most important part of the course and does not duplicate the readings.

Probable evaluations:  
- First In-Class Exam 30%
- Second In-Class Exam 30%
- Final exam 40%

IN-CLASS EXAMS: PLEASE NOTE
Since these two exams are given in class-times, no provision will be made for “alternate times”. E.g., if other courses schedule events that are expected to occur at times when this course holds classes (class-times you have already committed to by registering in this course), then the regular class-times for Phil 3230 (and the exams given in those times) are the first commitment and alternative times for the exams will not be provided.

FINAL EXAM: PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING REGULATION FROM THE UNDERGRADUATE CALENDAR:
“Students are advised that the Final Examination schedules are available for Fall Semester by mid-August, for Winter Semester by mid-December, and for Summer Semester by mid-April. Students are required to consult the final examination timetable in order to avoid conflicts in examination times when adding courses. Written approval must be obtained from the dean or director and the instructor-in-charge of the course to register in courses that have conflicting examination times.”

The Final Exam for this course will not be re-scheduled or given at an alternative time (except for documented cases that fall within the university provisions). If there is a conflict of Final Exam times, it will be necessary to adjust your course selection and schedule.