GVPT 859A/PHIL 688P/PUAF 698E

PROSEMINAR IN POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY, AND PUBLIC POLICY FALL 2005

Wednesday, 12:30-3:15 p.m.
1107 Van Munching Hall

Instructors

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Texts in Bookstores


Additional Texts


Norman Vig and Michael Kraft, eds., *Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty First Century* [This is the 5th edition (2002) of this book, which had appeared under slightly different titles before.]

Course requirements

- A policy paper (due December 21), roughly 6000 words.
  - An outline/prospectus for the paper, with a list of sources, will be due on November 9.
  - Each student must give a 20-minute in-class presentation based on his/her research for the policy paper. The presentations will take place on December 7th and 14th.
• Two short papers of approximately 2,000 words. Due October 19th and December 7th. Topics to be distributed.

The two short papers together, the policy paper, and class participation (including the presentation) will count about equally for the final grade.

Web Page

http://www.philosophy.umd.edu/Faculty/SKerstein/CP4F05syl.htm

The web page will contain the most recent version of the syllabus, links to several readings, and so forth.

Tentative schedule and readings--updated 07-Oct-2005

Part I: Economic Approach to Public Policy

1. August 31: Strategic interaction, bargaining and game theory (KS)

2. September 7: The problem of collective action (KS)

Dixit and Nalebuff, pp. 1-201
Michael Taylor, The Possibility of Cooperation, ch. 1 (pp. 1-33)

3. September 14: States and markets (KS)

Charles Lindblom, Politics and Markets, pp. 33-51, 76-89
Milton Friedman, Free to Choose, pp. 1-29

4. September 21: Utilitarianism and cost-benefit analysis (SK and KS)

Daniel Hausman and Michael McPherson, Economic Analysis and Moral Philosophy, ch 6 (Welfare) and ch. 8 (Utilitarianism and Consequentialism)
Edith Stokey and Richard Zeckhauser, A Primer for Policy Analysis, ch. 9 (Project Evaluation: Benefit-Cost Analysis)

5. September 28: The Capabilities Approach and Human Development (SK)

NOTE SCHEDULE CHANGE


Part II. Intermezzo: Environmental Policy

6. October 5: Policy Issues (KS)

Norman Vig and Michael Kraft, eds., Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty First Century [This is the 5th edition (2002) of this book, which had appeared under slightly different titles before]

7. October 12: Philosophical Critique (SK)


Part III: Ends

8. October 19: Deontology and Kantianism (SK)

Shelly Kagan, “Doing Harm” in Normative Ethics (Westview, 1997), 70-105 TO BE ON E-RESERVE

Thomas Hill, “Kantianism” in The Blackwell Guide to Ethical Theory (Blackwell, 2000) TO BE ON E-RESERVE

Sam Kerstein, “Treating Others Merely as Means,” manuscript

9. October 26: Rights (SK)


European Charter of Fundamental Rights (2000)

Charter of Rights from the proposed Kurdistan Constitution (manuscript, 2005)

10. November 2: Pluralism and Relativism (SK)


Ruth Benedict, "Anthropology and the Abnormal" Journal of General Psychology, 10 (1934) LINK WORKS ONLY FROM UMD CAMPUS; IF UNABLE TO ACCESS, PLEASE READ THE SHORTENED VERSION OF PAPER AVAILABLE ON E-RESERVE FOR GVPT 859A UNDER THE TITLE "A DEFENSE OF ETHICAL RELATIVISM"
James Rachels, “The Challenge of Cultural Relativism”, *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*, ch. 3 ON E-RESERVE


**Part IV: Institutions**

11. **November 9: Democracy and social choice (KS)**

Riker, chapters 1-7, 10 (pp. 1-196, 233-53), but skip sections 4F, G, and H of chapter 4, and only skim chapters 6 and 7.

12. **November 16: Democracy and deliberation (SK)**

Amy Gutmann and Dennis Thompson, *Why Deliberative Democracy?*, pp. 3-8.

Lynn M. Sanders, "Against Deliberation," *Political Theory*, vol. 25. no. 3 (June, 1997), pp. 347-76. ON JSTOR


Lon Fuller, "Human Interaction and the Law" in *The Principles of Social Order*

Roger Fisher and William Ury, *Getting to Yes*, ch. 1

14 and 15. **December 7, 14: Student Presentations**