

Philosophy 207
Political Philosophy
Spring 2019

MW 125-240
West Duke 106

Prof. Gopal Sreenivasan
West Duke 207
gopal.sreenivasan@duke.edu

Reading schedule

January 9 Introduction.

Liberty

Jan 14 Berlin, "Two concepts of liberty," *Four essays on liberty* (Oxford, 1969).
Jan 16 MacCallum, "Negative and positive freedom," *Philosophical Review* 76 (1967).
Jan 23 No new reading.
Jan 28 & 30 Skinner, *Liberty before liberalism* (Cambridge, 1998).
Feb 4 & 6 Pettit, *Republicanism* (Clarendon, 1997), chh. 1 and 2.

Equality

Feb 11 Williams, "The idea of equality," *Problems of the Self* (Cambridge, 1973), ch. 14.
Feb 13 Rawls, *A Theory of Justice* (Harvard, 1971), §§11-14 and 17.
Feb 18 No new reading.
First essay due.
Feb 20 Sen, "Equality of what?," in S. Darwall (ed.) *Equal Freedom* (Michigan, 1998).
Feb 25 Parfit, "Equality or Priority?" in J. Harris (ed.) *Bioethics* (Oxford, 2001): 347-386.
Feb 27 No new reading.

Rights

March 4 Hart, "Are there any natural rights?" *Philosophical Review* 64 (1955).
March 6 MacCormick, "Rights in legislation," in P.M.S. Hacker and J. Raz (eds.) *Law, Morality, and Society* (Clarendon, 1977).

March 11 Spring break.

March 18 No new reading.
March 20 Raz, *Morality of freedom* (Oxford, 1986), ch. 7.
Second essay due.
March 25 Gilbert, *Rights and demands* (Oxford, 2018), chh. 4 and 8.
March 27 No new reading.

Democracy

- April 1 & 3 Dworkin, *Freedom's Law* (Harvard, 1996), Introduction.
April 8 & 10 Waldron, "The core of the case against judicial review," *Yale Law Journal* 115 (2006): 1346-1406.
April 15 Spector, "Judicial Review, Rights, and Democracy," *Law and Philosophy* 22 (2003): 285-334.
April 17 Third essay due. Spector continued.
April 22 Flex.
April 24 Flex.

End of lectures.

Texts

Apart from the Skinner, all the readings will be made available in Sakai as either links or PDFs. Please purchase a copy of Skinner's book.

Assignments

There will be three required essays (2000 words each) in this course. Each essay will be worth 30 percent of the final grade. Participation in class is worth the remaining 10 percent. There will be no examinations.

Everyone will have the option to write a fourth essay. If your fourth grade is higher than one of your previous three, you may substitute it for your lowest previous grade.

Office hours

By appointment. Please e-mail me or see me after class to arrange a meeting.

9 January, 2019