

Political Philosophy 3730
Justice and International Affairs

Instructor: Deen Chatterjee
University of Utah

Required Texts:

- (1) Deen Chatterjee, *The Ethics of Assistance: Morality and the Distant Needy* (Cambridge, 2004)
- (2) Verna Gehering, *War After September 11* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2003)
- (3) Deen Chatterjee, *Democracy in a Global World: Human Rights and Political Participation in the 21st Century* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2008)

Reserve (Marriott Library):

Required: Jan Narveson's article: "We Don't Owe Them a Thing!"

Optional: Deen Chatterjee and Don Scheid, *Ethics and Foreign Intervention* (Cambridge, 2003)

Course Description:

This is a course in political philosophy, broadly construed, with a focus on the issues of justice in international affairs. The traditional debates of justice and just-war have become a major focus of controversy in response to the changing nature of international affairs in the 21st century. Through an examination of key topics of current relevance—human rights, democracy, international law, poverty and affluence, and war and peace—with contrasting views of the leading theorists, the course addresses the important public and political issues of justice in today's global world.

Please Note: In order to do well in this course, it is important that you stay informed of national and world events. One way to do this is to make a habit of reading on a regular basis a good national newspaper such as *The New York Times* and an international weekly like *The Economist*.

Schedule:

Weeks

1-6: **Justice: Domestic Paradigms and International Challenges**

August 24 & 26: Introduction

August 31, Sept. 2, 7: Text 1, chs. 2 & 5

Sept. 9 & 14: Narveson article (on reserve)

Sept. 8, 10, 15: Text 1, chs. 6 and 7

Sept. 17: Public Forum on Democracy

Sept. 22: discussion session

Sept. 24: **short quiz #1**

Sept. 29, Oct. 1: Text 3, ch. 5

Oct. 6: **First Midterm**

7-9 **Global Poverty and National Responsibility**

Oct. 8, 20, 22, 27: Text 1, chs. 8, 13

Oct. 29: **short quiz #2**

10-12 **Autonomy, Intervention, and Warfare**

Nov. 3, 5: Text 2, ch. 1; recommended: Chatterjee/Scheid, ch. 11 (on reserve)

Nov. 10: Text 2, chs. 2.3

Nov. 12: discussion session

Nov. 17: Text 2, ch. 4; recommended: Chatterjee/Scheid, ch. 13 (on reserve)

Nov. 19: Text 2, chs. 5-6; Second Midterm assignment given out (take-home)

13-15 **Democracy in a Global World**

Nov. 24: **Second Midterm assignment due in class**; Text. 3, ch. 1

Dec. 1: Text 3, chs. 3, 6

Dec. 3: chs. 7, 8

Dec. 8: discussion session

Dec. 10: **Third Midterm**

Classroom Format:

Instruction format will consist of a mixture of lecture and discussion. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in thoughtful class discussion and expected to complete assigned readings well in advance of each class period. Student comments should indicate an evidence of familiarity with reading assignments. Students are expected to bring their texts in class to identify frequent citations of text materials in class lectures.

Cell phone use and texting are prohibited in class. Laptops are allowed only for course-related work. Students using laptops are required to sit in the very front row.

Work Required:

There will be three midterm exams on pre-assigned dates (see schedule) and ten pop quizzes. Midterm #1 will count 25% toward course grade, #2 30%, and #3 35%. Each quiz will count 1%.

The midterms will be essay exams. Their grades will be determined by the clarity, coherence, and accuracy of ideas and by the depth of analysis. Midterm questions will be drawn from class lectures, discussions, and required readings.

The ten pop quizzes will be administered at random, one at a time on any class day, without prior notice. They will consist of writing a short para to identify certain arguments, certain terms and concepts, or some authors—all drawn from class lectures.

Students are required to take the midterms as scheduled. A missed midterm must be made up within a week and at a time to be decided by the instructor. Students can make up a missed exam no more than once. Any missed midterm not made up will automatically fetch a fail grade.

If a pop quiz is missed, it cannot be made up.

Please Note:

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities. Please contact the Center for Disability Services (162 Union Building) if you will need any such accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

The instructor will donate the proceeds from the text royalties received for this course to Best Friends Animal Sanctuary (near Kanab, Utah) or to similar animal welfare organizations.