

**Philosophy 3700-1**  
Political Philosophy  
**TA: Reece Newman**

**Instructor: Deen Chatterjee**  
University of Utah

**Texts:**

- (1) Deen Chatterjee, *The Ethics of Assistance: Morality and the Distant Needy* (2004)
- (2) Verna Gehring, *War after September 11* (2003)
- (3) Deen Chatterjee, *Democracy in a Global World: Human Rights and Political Participation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (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* (2003)

**Course Description:**

The course is designed to introduce the basic concepts of political philosophy such as liberty, equality, democracy, and justice and to examine their international implications through a focused study of the political consequences of global interdependence. Drawing on ideas related to a variety of topics such as nationalism, cosmopolitanism, liberalism, utilitarianism, cultural relativism, the just-war doctrine, and social contract, the course examines various arguments that shed light on the theories and practices of the fundamental political ideals studied in this course. As the course elucidates the theoretical issues, it looks at the social and political realities of 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:**

Jan. 11, 13, 15:	Introduction
	<b>Justice: Domestic Paradigms and International Challenges</b>
Jan. 20, 22:	Text 1, ch. 2
Jan. 25, 27, 29:	Narveson article (on reserve)
Feb. 1, 3, 5, 8:	Text 1, chs. 6, 7
Feb. 10:	Text 3, ch. 5
Feb. 12, 17, 19:	Text 1, chs. 8, 9
Feb. 22, 24, 26:	Text 1, ch. 13
March 1:	First Midterm
	<b>Autonomy, Intervention, and Warfare</b>
March 3, 5, 8:	Text 2, ch. 1; recommended: Chatterjee/Scheid, ch. 11 (on reserve)
March 10, 12:	Text 2, chs. 2, 3
March 15, 17, 19:	Text 2, ch. 4
March 29, 31:	Text 2, chs. 5, 6; recommended: Chatterjee/Scheid, ch. 13 (on reserve)
April 2:	Second Midterm
	<b>Democracy in a Global World</b>
April 5, 7, 9:	Text 3, ch. 1; term paper assignment given out in class on April 7
April 12:	Text 3, ch. 3 <b>(over)</b>
April 14, 16, 19:	Text 3, ch. 6
April 21, 23, 26:	Text 3, ch. 8
April 28:	Third Midterm; term paper due in class today.

**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.

Class attendance is important for this course. Midterm questions and paper topics will be drawn from class lectures, discussions, and required readings.

**Grading Procedure and Work Required:**

There will be three (3) midterm exams on pre-assigned dates (see schedule) and a term paper. Midterm #1 will count 15% toward the course grade, midterm #2 20%, and midterm #3 25%. The term paper will count 25% and is due in class on April 28. Each midterm will be held in class, will require answering one question out of two, and will be in essay format.

Grades for the midterms and the paper will be determined by the clarity, coherence, and accuracy of your ideas and by the depth of your analysis.

Students are required to take the midterms and turn in the paper as scheduled. A missed midterm must be made up within a week and at a time that coincides with the instructor's office hour. Students can make up a missed exam no more than once. Any missed exam that is not made up will automatically fetch a fail grade. The term paper is due on or before the assigned date: no exception!

Up to fifteen percent (15%) of the course grade is set aside for class participation. Regular class attendance is required along with participation in class discussions. If one has more than four (4) unexcused absences, one loses all credit for this segment of the course grade.

**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.