

Huron Brief Course Outlines

Fall/Winter 2023-2024

Course Title: Justice

Course Number and Section

PHILOSOPHY

3810F - 550

Instructor Name(s): Ryan Robb

Instructor Email(s): rrobb@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

Discussions of justice occur at the locus of ethical, political, and legal theory; fairness is an ethical norm, one that many (most?) believe is and/or should be used to both structure and guide political institutions, institutions whose character is expressed in law. Not surprisingly then, the readings we engage in this course are all concerned with the extent to which existing Western political and legal institutions do and/or should manifest 'fairness'. Those readings are organized according to a distinction first introduced by Aristotle, i.e., the distinction between 'corrective' and 'distributive' justice. Contemporary discussions of corrective justice focus on 'private law', i.e., the area of law concerned with the voluntary and involuntary relationships between individuals (rather than the relations between citizens and the State), in an effort to determine how the Anglo-American Common Law tradition does and/or should secure fairness in those relations. Contemporary discussions of distributive justice, by contrast, are concerned primarily to identify the principles of fairness by which government institutions are and/or ought to be guided in their efforts to re-distribute the formal/material resources controlled by the State.

Learning Outcomes:

To improve students abilities to recognize, and produce, well-supported arguments

Textbooks and Course Materials:

All readings will be made available on OWL as the course proceeds.

Methods of Evaluation:

| Assignment | Due Date mm/dd/yy | Weight - % |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Participation/Attendance | Ongoing | 10% |
| Test 1 | Wednesday, October 4th | 10% |
| Essay 1 | Friday, October 20th | 30% |
| Test #2 | Wednesday, November 8th | 10% |
| Essay 2 | Friday, December 8th | 30% |
| Test #3 | December TBD | 10% |

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.