

PHIL 830:
Autonomy, Freedom, and Non-Domination

Spring 2015
Wednesdays, 3:30
Baker Hall 150

Danielle Wenner
Baker Hall 155C
dwenner@andrew.cmu.edu

This seminar will focus on classic and contemporary accounts of moral and political autonomy. The goal is to examine accounts of moral and political autonomy as well as various critiques of those accounts. We will pay especial attention to the neorepublican notion of freedom as non-domination, asking how and to what extent this concept interacts with competing conceptions of autonomy, and what can be gained or lost by looking at topics in global justice through the lens of non-domination.

Required Texts

Most required course readings will be made available electronically. Students should purchase the following Pettit book:

Pettit, P. (2012). On the People's Terms. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Course Requirements

Short Response Pieces – 20% - 6 short response pieces, with the lowest grade dropped. No longer than 3 double-spaced pages, the goal of the response piece is not expository but analytical. Argue for a thesis or raise an objection that you think is important and interesting. Short response pieces are due **no later than 8am on the day of class**, and may (will) be used during class discussion. Each student must turn in **at least one response piece during each of the months** Jan, Feb, Mar, and Apr.

Conference Paper & In-Class Presentation – 25% - A conference-length (~3000 words) paper which you will present in class on a week of your choosing. Papers must be distributed to all members of the group **no later than 8pm the night before** your presentation. Students are expected to read each other's papers and come to class ready to give constructive feedback.

Conference Paper Re-Write – 35% - A revision of your presentation paper in light of our discussion on your presentation day and my comments. All students will have at least two weeks to complete their revisions.

In-Class Participation – 20% - Please complete all readings before class & come to class prepared to contribute to discussion. In particular, be prepared to explain the major theses of assigned readings, the arguments for those theses, and to critically evaluate those arguments. Each week, one participant will be chosen to lead off our discussion by providing a critical précis of the reading and raising a few interesting points for discussion.

Class Policies

Late short response pieces are not accepted. Late papers will be penalized half a letter grade (5 points) for every day or portion of a day that they are late. I have a zero-tolerance policy for cheating: any student found to have plagiarized on any assignment will receive a failing grade for the entire course, and all available institutional penalties will be sought.

Note:

There will be no class meeting at the regular scheduled time on Wednesday, April 1. We will make this meeting up on a date/time TBD sometime during the semester.

If you wish to request an accommodation due to a documented disability, please notify me and contact Disability Resources at: access@andrew.cmu.edu or 412-268-2013 as soon as possible.

Outline of Topics & (Tentative) Schedule of Readings

Readings are up for discussion. If participants have something they'd like to read, I'm happy to swap out some of the readings I've chosen. Please feel free to make recommendations!

Freedom & Individual Autonomy

1st Meeting

Berlin, I. (1969). Two Concepts of Liberty. Four Essays on Liberty. Oxford, Oxford University Press.

2nd Meeting

Dworkin, G. (1988). The Theory and Practice of Autonomy. New York, Cambridge University Press, chs. 1, 2, 8.

3rd Meeting

Gaus, G.F. (2005). The Place of Autonomy within Liberalism. Autonomy and the Challenges to Liberalism. J. Anderson and J. Christman. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

4th Meeting

Raz, J. (1986). The Morality of Freedom. Oxford, Clarendon Press, chs. 14-15.

Five Critiques of Autonomy

5th Meeting

Mackenzie, C. and N. Stoljar (2000). Autonomy Refigured. Relational Autonomy: Feminist Perspectives on Autonomy, Agency, and the Social Self. C. Mackenzie and N. Stoljar. New York, Oxford University Press: 3-31.

Relational Autonomy

6th Meeting

Mackenzie, C. (2014). Three Dimensions of Autonomy: A Relational Analysis. Autonomy, Oppression, and Gender. A. Veltman and M. Piper. New York, Oxford University Press: 15-41.

7th Meeting

Hirschman, N. (2014). Autonomy? Or Freedom? A Return to Psychoanalytic Theory. Autonomy, Oppression, and Gender. A Veltman and M. Piper. New York, Oxford University Press: 61-85.

Republicanism & Non-Domination

8th Meeting

Pettit, P. (2012). On the People's Terms: A Republican Theory and Model of Democracy. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Intro & Ch. 1.

9th Meeting

Pettit, P. (2012). On the People's Terms: A Republican Theory and Model of Democracy. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Ch. 2.

10th Meeting

Larmore, C. (2001). "A Critique of Philip Pettit's Republicanism." Nous **35**(s1): 229-243.

Applying Non-Domination to Global Justice

11th Meeting

Young, I.M. (2004). Two Concepts of Self-Determination. Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Minority Rights. S. May, T. Modood and J. Squires. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press: 176-196.

12th Meeting

Laborde, C. (2010). "Republicanism and Global Justice: A Sketch." European Journal of Political Theory **9**(1): 48-69.

13th Meeting

Bachvarova, M. (2013). "Non-Domination's Role in the Theorizing of Global Justice." Journal of Global Ethics. **9**(2): 173-185.

14th Meeting

Bohman, J. (2004). "Republican Cosmopolitanism." Journal of Political Philosophy **12**(3): 336-352.

15th Meeting

Schuppert, F. (2013). Collective Agency and Global Non-Domination. Selected Works of Fabian Schuppert. Oxford, Oxford University Press.