

Care and Justice Seminar
Fall Quarter
Stanford Philosophy

Contact: Barry Maguire

Email: barry.maguire@stanford.edu

Office: Building 90, room 92E

Office hours: Wednesdays 3pm – 4pm and by appointment

Class Details: Mondays (excluding Thanksgiving week) from 3pm until 5.50pm

Class Location: 380-381U

Content Description: Since the 1970s, a number of feminists, socialists, and virtue theorists have directed their attention to the importance of care in practical philosophy. In this class, we will focus on the ambition to employ the notion of care in systematic political ethics. We will address the relationship between care and integrity, care and community, care and justice, and the role of care in thinking about the ethics of economics.

Reading: Everything on this syllabus has been carefully chosen. Read each piece a few times. Read once, quickly, to get the structure of the argument, the main claims, and the conclusion(s). Read a second time to study the argument more carefully, to formulate the argument in your own words, to think up your own examples to illustrate the main claims, and to think of counterexamples to these claims. Read a third time to soak up any remaining details. Some excellent reading advice can be found online here: www.jimpryor.net/teaching/guidelines/reading. You are encouraged to read anything else that interests you. In general, the more you read, the better a sense you will have of the strengths and weaknesses of prominent views in any given topic, and of typical forms of argument in the area.

Writing: Please read Jim Pryor's 'Guide to Writing Philosophy Papers,' Strunk & White's *The Elements of Style*, George Orwell's 'Politics and the English Language,' and Angela Mendelovici's 'A Sample Philosophy Paper.'

Text Availability: All texts for this class are available on the course website or online (e.g. jstor.org or oxfordscholarshiponline.com) or in the library.

Assignments:

- Presentations: This is a discussion intensive seminar. Each of you will undertake 3-5 in class elucidations and defences of assigned reading in class and 2-3 class discussion summaries.
- Essays: You will each write one sustained argument addressing one theme from the course. You will submit this in two parts. Firstly, you will submit an elucidation and defence of some argument from one of the course texts (or text closely related to the course text). This will around 1,000 words (give or take 10%) and will be due at 11.59 on Friday of Week Five. Secondly, you will submit a constructive critical

discussion of this same argument, building on your earlier discussion. This will be around 2,000 words and will be due at 11.59pm on Friday or Week Eleven.

Submission: Submit your assignments in .docx (preferred) or .pdf to stanfordphilosophyessay@gmail.com by 11.59pm on the due date. Late fees (10% deduction per day) will accrue to essays late, unreadable, not properly uploaded, etc.

Assessment:

- 35% of your grade is for the in class presentations and summaries.
- 15% of your grade is for the first assignment due week five.
- 50% of your grade is for the second assignment due week eleven.

Attendance: You will lose 5% of your grade if you miss more than one class without a formal explanation. Terms are short so the attendance policy will be strictly enforced.

Electronics Policy: Phones and Laptops are not permitted in class without a formal explanation.

Email Policy: Please be professional, and avoid asking anything you can find out without asking. Please keep your questions brief and accept my apologies in advance for terse replies. I will reply as soon as possible. If you don't receive a reply within two days please send a short follow-up email.

Students with Disabilities: Students who may need an academic accommodation based on the impact of a disability should initiate the request with the Student Disability Resources Center (SDRC) located within the Office of Accessible Education (OAE). SDRC staff will evaluate the request with required documentation, recommend reasonable accommodations, and prepare an Accommodation Letter for faculty dated in the current quarter in which the request is being made. Students should contact the SDRC as soon as possible since timely notice is needed to coordinate accommodations. For more information, please see <http://studentaffairs.stanford.edu/oe>. Please also feel free to contact me at any time if there is anything I can do to make the course more accessible for you.

Honor Code: You have all taken the Stanford Honor Code, of which plagiarism is a violation. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. It is in your interest to keep a careful record of any resources you use in research and writing. Always cite any resource that you use. Do not re-use papers written for past classes (with the exception of the revision specified above, which will involve a significant amount of new work).

Provisional Nature of the Syllabus: I reserve the right to alter the syllabus at any time. Alterations will be announced via e-mail and an updated syllabus will be uploaded to the course website.

Topics and Readings

24 Sep, Week One:

Virginia Held, *The Ethics of Care: Personal, Political, and Global*, chapters 1 and 2

1 Oct, Week Two:

Virginia Held, *The Ethics of Care*, chapters 4 and 6

8 Oct, Week Three:

Diemut Elisabeth Bubeck, 'Considerations of Care and Considerations of Justice' in *Care, Gender, and Justice*

Background:

Anca Gheaus, *Care and Justice*, chapters 3 and 4

15 Oct, Week Four:

Andrew Mason, *Community*, chapters 1 and 2

22 Oct, Week Five:

Thaddeus Metz, papers on *Ubuntu* (to be specified)

29 Oct, Week Six:

Onora O'Neill, 'Abstraction, Idealization, and Ideology in Ethics'

5 Nov, Week Seven:

Virginia Held, *The Ethics of Care*, chapter 7, 'Markets'

Joan Tronto, *Caring Democracy*, chapter 5, 'Can Markets Be Caring?'

12 Nov, Week Eight:

Daniel Engster, *The Heart of Justice*, chapter 3, 'Care Theory and Economic Justice'

Background:
Engster, *Heart of Justice*, chapters 1 and 2

26 Nov, Week Nine:

Barry Maguire, Caring Consequentialism?

Background:
Michael Smith and Philip Pettit, Global Consequentialism
Robert Adams, Motive Utilitarianism

3 Dec, Week Ten:

G.A. Cohen, selections from *Rescuing Justice, Rescuing Equality* critiquing Rawls on incentives