



Gateway to Politics, Philosophy, & Economics (UNC)
Prisoner's Dilemma and Distributive Justice (Duke)

- Instructors: Professors Geoffrey Brennan and Barry Maguire
- Class: Tuesdays 4:40 to 5:55 p.m. at UNC in Murphey 105
Thursdays 4:40 to 5:55 at Duke in Gray 228
- Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:30 to 4:30 and Wednesdays 5:15 until 6:15 at UNC in Room 215C
- Course Description: This class is an introduction to the topics and methods of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) as an interdisciplinary field. Topics include rational choice theory, game theory, the role of social norms, distributive justice and social choice theory. We will mix both contemporary and historical writing to give a broad overview of the questions that PPE is concerned with, and the ways the field has progressed.
- On Tuesdays we will have classes on UNC's campus. On Thursdays we will have classes on Duke's campus. Attendance at both is compulsory. This means that students will need to commute between Chapel Hill and Durham. I recommend taking the Robertson Scholars Express bus between campuses because driving can take too long. Round trip is \$5, and discounted fare cards (\$25 value for \$20) are available online (<http://www.triangletransit.org/pass-store>)
- Prerequisites: One Economics course credit; declared Minor in PPE
- Evaluation: Details announced in class. Grade will be divided as follows:
10% for participation (including attendance)
15% for first assignment
25% for second assignment (mid-term; 5 pages)
15% for third assignment
25% for fourth assignment (final; 7 pages)
- Text: Hausman and MacPherson, *Economic Analysis, Moral Philosophy and Public Policy* (2nd ed.)
Additional readings will be available online or on the course website
- Electronics Policy: Phones and Laptops are not allowed in class without explicit permission
- Email: Please be professional. Keep questions brief and accept our apologies in advance for terse replies. Please send a short follow-up email if you do not receive a reply within two business days.

Honor Code:

All students are expected to abide by their respective honor code.

- <http://studentconduct.unc.edu/students/rights-responsibilities>
- <http://integrity.duke.edu/index.html>

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, including friends with whom you have worked in cooperation is permitted on an assignment. Do not re-use papers written for past classes.

Reading:

Everything on this syllabus has been carefully chosen. We expect you to read everything, and read it carefully. 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: <http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/guidelines/reading.html>

All reading is required, and your manifest understanding of the reading will partly determine your grade for participation. You are welcome to read anything else that interests you. Feel free to ask me for further reading suggestions. 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:

An important goal of this course is for you to further develop your skills in philosophical writing. I will distribute a guide to writing philosophical essays in the first class. Please also read Strunk & White's *The Elements of Style*, and Jim Pryor's *Guide to writing philosophy papers*: <http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/guidelines/writing.html>

UNIT	DATE	DUE	TOPIC	READING
Individual Choice	Thurs 8th		Method	Hausman 1.1 - 1.3 Adam Smith, <i>The Wealth of Nations</i> , chapter 1-3
	Tues 13th		Models of Man	Bentham, <i>Principle of Legislation</i> , 1-4, 20-32 Jevons, <i>Theory of Political Economy</i> , excerpts Morgan, "Ideal Types, Idealizations, and Caricature" 150-157
	Thurs 15th			No Lecture; revise Tuesday reading
	Tues 20th		Rational Choice I	Hausman, pp. 45-50 (ch 4) Morgan, "Ideal Types, Idealisations, and Caricature" pp. 150-157
	Thurs 22nd		Rational Choice II	Hausmann, pp.51-59 (ch 4) Morgan, "Ideal Types, Idealisations, & Caricature" 157-167

	Tues 27th	AS1	Evaluation?	Hausman, pp. 64-72, 104-107, 135-151
Interdependent Choice	Thurs 29th		Game Theory	Hausman, pp. 234-243 (ch 14)
	Tues 3rd February		Game Theory	Brennan and Tullock, "An Economic Theory of Military Tactics" Wydick, Games in Economic Development, excerpts
	Thurs 5th		Interpretation	Morgan, "Explanatory Depth: the Role of Narratives"
Choice in Groups	Tues 10th		Conventions	Lewis, Convention (excerpts)
	Thurs 12th		Social Norms	Bicchieri, Grammar of Society (excerpts)
Market Success / Failure	Tues 17th		PPE	Gaus, Intro to PPE, ch.3
	Thurs 19th		Public Choice	Samuelson 1855 RE& Stats
	Tues 25th			Head, 'Public Goods and Public Policy'
	Thurs 27th		Market Failure	Gaus, Intro to PPE, ch.6
Public Choice 1	Tues 3rd March			Buchanan, 'Politics without Romance'
	Thurs 5th			continued
	SPRING BREAK - Tue 10 and Thurs 12			
Public Choice and Democracy	Tues 17th			Brennan and Lomasky, 'Impartial Spectator goes to Washington'
	Thurs 19th			to be determined
Justice	Tues 24th		Hobbes	To be determined
	Thurs 26th		Hobbes	
	Tues 31st		Hume	On property; tbd
	Thurs 2nd of April		Locke / Nozick	Tbd
	Tues 7th		Rawls	On fairness and contracts
	Thurs 9th		Rawls	On fairness and contracts

Applications

Tues 14th

tbd

Thurs 16th

Review

Tues 21st

Review

Thurs 23rd