

Political Philosophy | PIU33071

Year	Junior Sophister
ECTS Credits	10
Contact Hours	22 lectures; no tutorials
Pre-requisite	None
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Adina Preda
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Topic: Distributive justice

Module Outline:

This module will essentially ask whether the welfare state is justified, how extensive it should be, and what level of inequality and/or poverty is acceptable in a just society. Thus, the module will examine the main theories of distributive or social justice in contemporary analytical political philosophy. Distributive justice is about the fair distribution of burdens and benefits in a society and some of the main approaches to this issue that we will look at are liberal egalitarianism, libertarianism (left and right), luck egalitarianism, relational egalitarianism and republicanism. We will also look at some of the critiques, alternative approaches and applications of these theories to areas like health and education.

Assessment: 1 Exam (mid-term) 20% **AND** 1 Essay (end of module) 20% **AND** 2 hour exam 60%

Recommended Reading List:

The complete reading list, including primary and secondary literature, will be finalized at the beginning of the term. Some of the useful reference books for this module include

Iwao Hirose – *Egalitarianism*, Routledge, 2015

- Matthew Clayton & Andrew Williams (eds.) – *Social Justice*, Blackwell Publishing, 2004
- Iwao Hirose – *Egalitarianism*, Routledge, 2015
- Serena Olsaretti (ed.) – *The Oxford Handbook of Distributive Justice*, Oxford University Press, 2018

Some of the essential texts include:

- John Rawls – *A Theory of Justice*
- Ronald Dworkin – *Sovereign Virtue*
- G.A. Cohen – *Rescuing Justice and Equality*