

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS4541														
Subject Title	Justice and the Modern Social Context														
Credit Value	3														
Level	4														
Pre-requisite/ Co-requisite/ Exclusion	<u>Pre-requisite:</u> APSS2200 The Art of Reasoning														
Assessment Methods	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;">100% Continuous Assessment</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Individual Assessment</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Group Assessment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Seminar presentation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15 %</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Seminar Participation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10%</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Written assignment</td> <td style="text-align: center;">60 %</td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final grade is calculated according to the percentages assigned; The completion and submission of all component assignments are required for passing the subject; and Student must pass the specific component(s) (standard of passing) if he/she is to pass the subject. 			100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment	1. Seminar presentation	15 %	15%	2. Seminar Participation	10%		3. Written assignment	60 %	--
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Objectives	The objective of this subject is to introduce students to the different approaches to “justice”, with particular reference to the modern social context.														
Intended Learning Outcomes	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. compare the various ways of thinking about “justice”; b. recognize the importance of the connection between modernity and the various perspectives of moral reasoning in relation to the concept of “justice”; c. evaluate the links among moral reasoning, the concept of “justice”, social policy and administration, and the modern Chinese social context. 														
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction: Justice and Moral Reasoning 2. The Modern Social Context: Secularization, Individualism, and Instrumental Reason 3. Maximizing Welfare and Utilitarianism: Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill 4. The Free Market Ideology of Libertarianism 5. Immanuel Kant on Freedom, Autonomy, and the Categorical Imperative 														

	<p>6. John Rawls’s “Theory of Justice”</p> <p>7. Individual Rights, Virtue, Community, and the Common Good</p> <p>8. “Justice” and the Chinese Social Context</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. The Deep Structure of Chinese Familism and its Relationship with “Justice”</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Cultural Differences, Deep Understanding and “Justice” in Chinese Societies</p>																																						
<p>Teaching/Learning Methodology</p>	<p>Lectures and seminars are used to facilitate students’ learning of the subject. In the lectures, the instructor introduces students to major concepts and arguments related with relevant topics. The instructor demonstrates to them the relevance of those concepts and arguments for thinking about “justice”. Students are encouraged to discuss current social justice issues in class.</p> <p>Students are expected to pay their effort to organize presentations and small group discussions in seminars on assigned topics. It is hoped that they can draw insights from the concepts and arguments they have learnt in the lectures to illuminate their reflections on issues and cases in thinking about “justice”.</p>																																						
<p>Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="456 931 1481 1375"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Specific assessment methods/tasks</th> <th rowspan="2">% weighting</th> <th colspan="6">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>a</th> <th>b</th> <th>c</th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Seminar presentation and participation</td> <td>40 %</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Individual written assignment</td> <td>60 %</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>100 %</td> <td colspan="6"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:</p> <p>Seminar presentations and small group discussions enable the students to show their own understanding and analysis of the issues concerning justice.</p> <p>Individual written assignments enable the students to show their own understanding and analysis of the issues concerning justice.</p>	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)						a	b	c				1. Seminar presentation and participation	40 %	✓	✓	✓				2. Individual written assignment	60 %	✓	✓	✓				Total	100 %						
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Written assignment preparation 	38 Hrs.
	Total student study effort	115 Hrs.
Reading List and References	<p><u>Essential</u></p> <p>Kymlicka, W. (2002). <i>Contemporary political philosophy: An introduction</i>. (2nd Ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Miller, D. (2003). <i>Political Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Sandel, M.J. (2009). <i>Justice: What's the right thing to do?</i> New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.</p> <p>Swift, A. (2019). <i>Political Philosophy: A Beginners' Guide for Students and Politicians</i>. (4th Ed.). Cambridge: Polity Press.</p> <p>Wolff, J. (2016). <i>An Introduction to Political Philosophy</i>. (3rd Ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p><u>Supplementary</u></p> <p>Allen, D.S. (2002). "Jurgen Habermas and the Search for Democratic Principles," in Sharon, L. B., & Christians, C.G. (Eds.) <i>Moral engagement in public life: Theorists for contemporary ethics</i>, (97-122). New York: Peter Lang.</p> <p>Bellah, R.N. et al. (1985). <i>Habits of the heart: Individualism and commitment in American life</i>. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.</p> <p>Bohman, J. (1996). <i>Public deliberation: pluralism, complexity, and democracy</i>. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.</p> <p>De Bary, W.T. (1998). <i>Asian values and human rights: A Confucian communitarian perspective</i>. New York: Columbia University Press.</p> <p>De Bary, W.T., & Tu, W. (Eds.) (1998). <i>Confucianism and human rights</i>. New York: Columbia University Press.</p> <p>Gutmann, A. & Thompson, D. (2004). <i>Why Deliberative Democracy</i>. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.</p> <p>King, Ambrose Yeo-chi (2018). <i>China's Great Transformation: Selected Essays on Confucianism, Modernization, and Democracy</i>. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press.</p> <p>MacIntyre, A. (1984). <i>After virtue: A study in moral theory</i>. (2nd Ed.). Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press.</p> <p>Mulhall, S., & Swift, A. (1996). <i>Liberals and communitarians</i>. (2nd Ed.). Oxford: Blackwell.</p> <p>Rawls, J. (1971). <i>A theory of justice</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Sandel, M.J. (1998). <i>Liberalism and the limits of justice</i>. (2nd Ed.). Cambridge England: Cambridge University Press.</p>	

	<p>Sandel, M.J. (Ed.) (2007). <i>Justice: a reader</i>. New York: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Sen, A. (2009). <i>The idea of justice</i>. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press.</p> <p>Taylor, C. (1985). <i>Philosophy and the human sciences: Philosophical papers 2</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Taylor, C. (1991). <i>The ethics of authenticity</i>. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.</p> <p>Taylor, C. (1995). <i>Philosophical arguments</i>. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.</p> <p>Taylor, C. (2004). <i>Modern social imaginaries</i>. Durham: Duke University Press.</p> <p>Tronto, J. C. (1993). <i>Moral Boundaries: A Political Argument for an Ethic of Care</i>. New York: Routledge.</p> <p>周保松，(2015):《政治的道德：從自由主義的觀點看》，增訂本，香港：香港中文大學出版社。</p> <p>周保松，(2015):《自由人的平等政治》，新版，香港：香港中文大學出版社。</p>
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