JUSTICE

Course Description
An inquiry into the nature and implications of justice in areas ranging from criminal justice to distributive justice to the circumstances of war and peace. We will consider issues such as abortion, the criminalization of behavior, the death penalty, surrogate motherhood, global poverty, civil disobedience, and international conflict. We will also discuss the justice or injustice of legal and political systems in their entirety and a range of responses to systemic injustice.

Course Requirements
The writing requirements for this course include at least two short papers, one longer paper, and one final exam. Three short papers (1000 – 1200 words each) will be assigned. All students must submit the first two of these papers, due on Friday, February 10 and Friday, March 3. In addition, any student may elect to submit a third paper, due on Friday, March 31. If you submit all three papers, the two papers that receive the best grades will be used to calculate your final grade. All students must also submit a final paper of 2000 – 2500 words on Wednesday, May 3. All papers must be submitted on the day on which they are due by 12 noon and will be penalized if they are submitted late. You must submit all the required work for this course to receive a passing grade.

Please note that you are expected to attend all the lectures and discussion sections in this class. You are also responsible for being familiar with all instructions given, including instructions delivered verbally during the lecture sessions. If you must miss a session, please inform your TA in advance if possible or, if that is not possible, explain the reason for your absence afterward.

You are responsible for the honesty and integrity of all the written work you submit for this course in accordance with Columbia University’s policies on academic honesty and the Guidelines for Papers issued for this course. Please read the sections of these Guidelines on Citations and Academic Honesty carefully.

Grading
Each of the two short papers will account for about 15% of the final grade. The long paper will account for about 30% of the final grade. The final exam will account for about 35% of the final grade, and 5% of the final grade will be based on students’ attendance and participation in class (attendance is a significant factor in participation). Please note that these percentages are approximations; your final grade will be based ultimately on our judgments about your command of the subject matter of this course and of the skills you are able to demonstrate by the end of the semester.
Readings
Most of the required readings are available in library reserves for this course either online or in hard copies (or both). Additional required readings will be drawn from the following books, which are available for purchase at Book Culture:

- Michael Walzer, *Just and Unjust Wars* (Basic Books)

Course Outline and Schedule
The course outline below indicates the schedule of topics we will discuss, required readings for each topic, and a tentative schedule of dates on which discussions will occur. All required readings should be completed in advance of the class session in which they will be discussed.

**Introduction**
(January 18)

**I Theoretical Perspectives on Justice**
(Jan. 23)

A. Goal-based ("consequentialist") Theories
J.S. Mill, *Utilitarianism* (71 pp.)

B. Rights-based ("deontological") Theories
Ronald Dworkin, “Taking Rights Seriously” (22 pp.)
Immanuel Kant, “Theory and Practice” (to the end of Part I, “On the Relationship of Theory to Practice in Morality in General”)(12 pp.)

**II Crime and Punishment**
(Jan. 25)

A. Criminalization
(Jan. 30 - Feb. 1)

1. Theory
J.S. Mill, *On Liberty*, chs. 1, 4 (32 pp.)
Robert P. George, *Making Men Moral*, chs. 1, 2 (64 pp.)

2. Hate Speech
Charles R. Lawrence III, “Cross-Burning and the Sound of Silence” (8 pp.)
Lee C. Bollinger, “Rethinking Group Libel” (9 pp.)

3. Abortion
Judith Jarvis Thomson, “A Defense of Abortion” (20 pp.)
Marquis, “Why Abortion is Immoral” (20 pp.)

First Paper Due
(Friday, Feb. 10)

B. Punishment
(Feb. 13)

Jeffrey H. Reiman, “Justice, Civilization, and the Death Penalty” (33 pp.)
The text appears to be a course syllabus or reading list for a social science or law class, discussing topics such as Criminal Justice and Equality, Contracts, Compensation, and distributional justice. It includes readings from various authors and references to specific pages or chapters. The syllabus is structured into different sections with due dates marked throughout, indicating a well-organized academic schedule.
VI War and Peace

A. Just War Theory (April 3-5)
Michael Walzer, Just and Unjust Wars, chs. 1-4 (70 pp.)
Neta C. Crawford, “Just War Theory and the U.S. Counterterror War” (17 pp.)

B. Transitional Justice (April 10-12)
Carlos Niño, “Legal Problems of Trials for Human Rights Violators” (37 pp.)
Paul van Zyl, “Dilemmas of Transitional Justice: the Case of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation” (21 pp.)

C. The Birth, Death, and Boundaries of States (April 17-19)
Michael Walzer, “The Moral Standing of States” (21 pp.)
Allen Buchanan, “The Making and Unmaking of Boundaries: What Liberalism Has to Say” (27 pp.)
Dennis Ross, “Why Israelis, Arabs, and Palestinians See the World the Way They Do” (31 pp.)

VII Justice Reconsidered

David Johnston, A Brief History of Justice, Introduction, Prologue, Chapters 1, 7, 8, Epilogue (125 pp.) (April 24-26)

Conclusion (May 1)

Final Paper Due (Wednesday, May 3)

Final Examination TBA