

Graduate Seminar  
*Cosmopolitanism, Human Rights and Social Justice*  
Sharon Anderson-Gold Tuesdays 4-7pm

SYLLABUS (revised august 20, 2007)

This course will cover the related themes of cosmopolitanism, human rights and social justice. Cosmopolitanism is a moral and political theory that views human rights and duties as universal and “borderless”. It is therefore strongly correlated with international human rights and global social justice in contemporary political theory. The course will also consider the relationship of these themes to cultural pluralism, feminism and other critical perspectives. One of the fundamental themes of the course will be the challenge that multiculturalism presents to liberal political theory and how this affects our current understanding of the nature of political and cultural identities, the state, human rights and such.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Kok-Chor Tan, *Justice Without Borders*. Cambridge University Press, 2004  
Will Kymlicka, *Multicultural Citizenship*, Oxford University Press, 1995  
Susan Orkin, *Is Multiculturalism Bad for Women*, Princeton University Press, 1999  
Seyla Benhabib, *The Rights of Others: Aliens, Residents and Citizens*, Cambridge University Press, 2004  
Thomas Pogge, *World Poverty and Human Rights*, Polity Press (Blackwell) 2002

Recommended Texts:

David Held, *Democracy and the Global Order: From the Modern State to Cosmopolitan Governance*, Stanford University Press (1995)  
Nancy Fraser, *Justice Interruptus: Critical Reflections on the “Postsocialist” Condition*, Routledge, 1997

REQUIREMENTS:

*Class presentation and summary paper* – 20 points  
Each student will take responsibility for presenting a detailed critical evaluation and summary of a scheduled reading as well as lead class discussion for that date. This will be followed by a written evaluation and critique (4-6 pages)  
*Summaries of readings* – 40 points  
Each student will provide a brief summary of the week’s readings with critical reflections (3-5 pages)  
*Final project* - 40 points  
Each student will propose a critical theme for research using texts going beyond the course syllabus and will present a critical evaluation of this theme to the class followed by a written critique (10-12 pages)  
Grades will be +/-, on the following scale: A - 94-100 , A- 90-93.99, B+ 87-89.99, B 84-86.99 , B- 80-83.99 , C+ 77-79.99 , C 74-76.99 , C- 70-73.99

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Course Schedule

August 28 – Introduction

September 4 – no class

September 11- *Justice Without Borders*,  
Introduction and Part I: Cosmopolitanism, pp. 1-82

September 18 – *Justice Without Borders*.  
Part II: Nationalism, Part III: Patriotism, Conclusion, pp. 85-202

September 25 – *Multicultural Citizenship*  
Chapters 1-5, pp. 1- 106

October 2 - *Multicultural Citizenship*  
Chapters 6-10, pp. 107-195

October 9 – no class (Monday schedule)

October 16 - *Is Multiculturalism Bad for Women?* \  
Okin (both essays) al-Hibri, Tamir, Gilman, Parekh, Sustain, Nussbaum

October 23 - *The Rights of Others*  
Intro, Chapters 1-3 , pp. 1-128

October 30 - *The Rights of Others*  
Chapters 4-5, Conclusion pp. 129- 221

November 6 - *World Poverty and Human Rights*  
Intro., Chapters 1-4, pp. 1-117

November 13 - *World Poverty and Human Rights*  
Chapters 5- 8, pp. 118-215

November 20 – final projects

November 27 – final projects

December 4 – final projects

Final written critiques due no later than December 6.

