

**GVPT 859A/PHIL 688P/PUAF 698E/LAW 593K
PROSEMINAR IN POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY, AND PUBLIC POLICY
Fall 2007**

Instructors

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Course website: Go to www.publicpolicy.umd.edu/cp4 and click on Fall 2007 Proseminar.

Electronic course reserves: Go to Course Reserves on UMD Library Catalog page. Password is phil688pmol or gvpt859asol (depending on which course number you are using for your search).

Texts

Avinash Dixit and Barry Nalebuff, *Thinking Strategically: The Competitive Edge in Business, Politics, and Everyday Life* (Norton, 1991).

William Riker, *Liberalism Against Populism* (Waveland Press, 1982).

Norman Vig and Michael Kraft, eds., *Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty First Century*, 6th ed. (Washington: CQ Press, 2006).

Other readings will be available online (some on electronic reserves), or will be distributed in class.

Course requirements

A policy paper due December 21, roughly 6000 words.

An outline/prospectus for the paper, with a list of sources, will be due on November 6. Each student will give a 20-minute in-class presentation based on his or her research for the policy paper. The presentations will take place on December 4 and 11.

Two short papers of approximately 2,000 words. Due October 16 and December 11. Topics to be distributed in class. The two short papers each count for about 20 percent of the grade, the policy paper about 40 percent, and the quality of class participation (including the presentation) about 20 percent.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND READINGS

(Readings not in the required texts are on electronic reserves unless otherwise noted. Some changes in the syllabus are possible.)

Part I: The economic approach to public policy

1. September 4: Strategic interaction, bargaining and game theory (KS)

2. September 11: The problem of collective action (KS)

Dixit and Nalebuff, pp. 1-201.

Michael Taylor, *The Possibility of Cooperation*, chapter 1 (pp. 1-33). E-reserve.

3. September 18: States and markets (KS)

Charles Lindblom, *Politics and Markets*, pp. 33-51, 76-89. E-reserve.

Milton & Rose Friedman, *Free to Choose*, pp. 1-29. E-reserve.

F. A. Hayek "The Use of Knowledge in Society" *American Economic Review* 35 (1945): 519-30. Research Port.

Joseph Heath, "The Benefits of Cooperation" *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 34 (2006): 313-51. Research Port.

Part II: Ends

4. September 25: Utilitarianism and cost-benefit analysis (DM and KS)

Will Kymlicka, "Utilitarianism," *Contemporary Political Philosophy*, chapter 2. E-reserve.

Daniel Hausman and Michael McPherson, *Economic Analysis and Moral Philosophy*, chapter 6. E-reserve.

Edith Stokey and Richard Zeckhauser, *A Primer for Policy Analysis*, chapter 9. E-reserve.

Cass Sunstein "Cognition and Cost-Benefit Analysis." E-reserve.

5. October 2: The capabilities approach and human development (DM)

Amartya Sen, "Capability and Well-Being," in A. Sen and M. Nussbaum, eds., *The Quality of Life*. E-reserve.

Martha Nussbaum, "Human Functioning and Social Justice: In Defense of Aristotelian Essentialism," *Political Theory* 20 (1992). E-reserve.

G.A. Cohen, "Equality of What?" in *Quality of Life*. E-reserve.

UNDP, Human Development Report 2005, chapter 1, at <http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005/>

6. October 9: Liberalism and libertarianism (DM)

Shelly Kagan "Doing Harm," *Normative Ethics* 70-84. E-reserve.

John Rawls, *A Theory of Justice* sections 3, 5, 11-17, 22 and 24-27. E-reserve.

Robert Nozick, *Anarchy, State, and Utopia*, Preface p. ix, Chapter 7. E-reserve.

7. October 16: Human rights and obligations I (DM)

Alan Gewirth "The Basis and Content of Human Rights" E-reserve.

Joseph Raz, "Human Rights without Foundations." SSRN.

Richard Rorty, "Human Rights, Rationality, and Sentimentality" at <http://www.usm.maine.edu/~bcj/issues/three/rorty.html>

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948): <http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>

European Charter of Fundamental Rights (2000): www.europarl.eu.int/charter

8. October 23: Human rights and obligations II (DM)

Thomas Pogge, “Severe Poverty as a Human Rights Violation” E-reserve.

Matthias Risse “How Does the Global Order Harm the Poor?” E-reserve.

Peter Singer “One Community” E-reserve.

9. October 30: The problem of relativism (DM)

William Talbott, *Which Rights Should Be Universal?*, chapters 2 and 3. E-reserve.

Michael Ignatieff, “The Attack on Human Rights,” *Foreign Affairs*. Research port.

Alison Renteln, “Relativism and the Search for Human Rights” *American Anthropologist* 90 (1988) 56-72. E-reserve.

Gilbert Harman, “Is There a Single True Morality?” E-reserve.

Intermezzo: environmental policy

10. November 6: Policy issues: the environment (KS & DM)

Norman Vig and Michael Kraft, eds., *Environmental Policy*, chapters 1, 9, 10, 11, 17.

Dale Jamieson, “Ethics, Public Policy, and Global Warming” E-reserve.

Herman Daly, “The Religious Vision.” E-reserve.

Mark Sagoff, “At the Monument to General Meade or On the Difference between Beliefs and Benefits,” in *Price, Principle, and the Environment*. E-reserve.

Part III: Institutions

12. November 13: Democracy and social choice (KS)

Riker, *Liberalism Against Populism*, chapters 1-7, 10 (pp. 1-196, 233-53), but skip sections 4F, G, and H of chapter 4, and only skim chapters 6 and 7.

13. November 20: Democracy and deliberation (KS)

Amy Gutmann and Dennis Thompson, *Why Deliberative Democracy?*, pp. 3-8. E-reserve.

Lynn M. Sanders, "Against Deliberation," *Political Theory* 25 (1997), pp. 347-76. Research Port.

Mark Sagoff, "The View From Quincy Library or Civic Engagement in Environmental Problem Solving, in *Price, Principle, and the Environment*, pp. 201-31. E-reserve.

Joshua Cohen, "Deliberation and Democratic Legitimacy" and David Miller, "Deliberative Democracy and Social Choice." E-reserve.

14. November 27: Politics, principle, and the public interest (KS)

Steven Kelman, "Why Public Ideas Matter," and Giandomenico Majone, "Policy Analysis and Public Administration," both in R. Reich, ed., *The Power of Public Ideas*, pp. 31-54, 157-178. E-reserve.

Roger Fisher and William Ury, *Getting to Yes*, chapter 1. E-reserve.

15. December 4, 11: Student Presentations