The purpose of this course is to investigate the relationship between justice, gender, sex and feminism. The first half of the course highlights the manner in which gender and sex impact the theorization of justice by examining a number of contemporary theories of justice. The second half of the course focuses on specific justice related topics such as pornography and censorship, reproductive rights, race, culture and ethnicity. The format of the course is one book review, one presentation, an essay, a final exam and class participation.

Required Texts


Assignments

1. One Book Review: Students will submit a book review of *Justice and the Politics of Difference* OR *Identity/Difference*. The reviews will be four pages in length and will be due on October 25 OR November 15.

2. Participation: This grade will be based on students’ contributions to weekly discussions. If a student misses a class and wishes to “make it up” the student can submit a one-page critical reflection of ALL of the readings from that week. This must be handed in within two weeks of the missed class. The instructor will take these submissions into consideration when assigning the participation grade. The instructor will only accept two of these submissions per student.

3. Essay: 12-13 pages, typed, double-spaced essay. Essay topics will be distributed in class. The late penalty is 5% per day (weekends count for 5%). See pages 6-9 for detailed instructions.

4. Peer Review: Each student will review and critically assess a draft of another student’s essay.

5. Final Exam: The final exam will take place during the exam period.

Grading Scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book Review</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay Peer Reviews</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Due: October 25 OR November 15

Due: November 29
Reading Outline

Week One: September 8
Introduction

Week Two: September 13 & 15
Contemporary Political Theory, Liberalism and Feminism

Week Three: September 20 & 22
Contemporary Political Theory, Liberalism and Feminism

Week Four: September 27 & 29
Rawls

Week Five: October 4 & 6
Due: Essay Outlines (October 4)
Commentaries on Rawls

Week Six: October 13
The Politics of Difference – Iris Marion Young

Week Seven: October 18 & 20
Due: Essay Drafts (October 20)
The Politics of Difference continued

**Week Eight:** October 25 & 27  
**Due: Book Reviews on Justice and the Politics of Difference (October 25)**  
Commentaries on the Politics of Difference  

**Week Nine:** November 1 & 3  
**Due: Return Essay drafts to Owners (November 1)**  
Politics of Difference – Rita Dhamood  

**Week Ten:** November 8 & 10  
Politics of Difference continued  

**Week Eleven:** November 15 & 17  
**Due: Book Reviews on Identity/Difference (November 15)**  
The Family  

**Week Twelve:** November 22 & 24  
Sex and Sexuality  

**Week Thirteen:** November 29 & December 1  
**Due: Essay (November 29)**  
Sex and Sexuality continued  
Book Review Guidelines

The book review is worth: 15%
Students may complete two book reviews and the professor will assign the higher mark for this portion of the overall grade.

Deadline: October 22 OR November 15

Late Penalty: 5% per day.

Each book review must:
- Be 4 pages in length
- Be typed and double spaced
- Be single sided
- Have 12 point, Times New Roman font
- Have one inch margins
- Have page numbers on every page
Comply with departmental and university policies on academic integrity and plagiarism (see pages 8-9).

Each book review should: (1) identify the thesis of the book; (2) provide a brief synopsis of the book (maximum one page); and a critical assessment of the book.

Consult the following book reviews as examples:


Essay Guidelines

Essay is worth: 35%
Deadline for Essay: November 29
Late Penalty: 5% per day.

10% of Essay grade will be assigned to the essay outline due on October 4

Essay Outline:

The essay outline should be 1-2 pages in length. It should have three sections. Section 1 will outline the general topic and its importance. Section 2 will identify the thesis of the essay and a schematic of the major arguments. This section can be completed in point-form. Section 3 will identify four to five academic sources and explain how they will be used in the essay.

Essay

Each essay is to be submitted with a title page, text and a works cited.

The essay must:
- Be 12 to 13 pages in length
- Be typed and double spaced
- Be single sided
- Have 12 point, Times New Roman font
- Have one inch margins
- Have page numbers on every page (except the title page). The page marked “1” will be the first page after the title page.
- Comply with departmental and university policies on academic integrity and plagiarism (see Pages 8-9).

*All essays will be rigorously assessed for form, content, structure, grammar and presentation (see grading sheet that immediately follows).

Helpful Suggestions:
- Students are strongly encouraged to make use of the writing centre to review drafts of their essays prior to submission.
- Make use of style manuals (for guidance on how to cite properly). The instructor will accept either MLA (in text citations) or Chicago Style (footnotes). Use these correctly and consistently.
- Students are encouraged to discuss their papers with the instructor. The instructor is willing to review essay outlines and the introductory paragraphs of the essays, as long as these are submitted at least TWO weeks prior to the submission deadline.
POSC 4100 Essay Grading Sheet

Student:_______________________    ID:___________________________

Essay Mark:_____  
Late Penalty:_____

Thesis Statement  
-Clear Position (1):___  
-Precision (i.e. road map provided) (1):___  
-Sophistication (1):___

Introduction  
-Sets context (3):___  
-Illustrates significance of topic (2):___

Argument  
-Quality of sources (10):___  
-Strength of evidence (5):___  
-Use of evidence (10):___  
-Diversity of evidence (5):___  
-Analytical rigour (10):____  
-Analytical sophistication (7):___  
-Convincing (5):___

Conclusion  
-Restated thesis (1):___  
-Summary of main arguments (3):___  
-Outlines Implications (3):___

Structure  
-Organization of arguments and paragraphs (5):___  
-Transitions (3):___  
-15 References (1):___  
-5 Sources (1):___  
-Referencing (5):___  
-Works Cited (5):___

Writing  
-Articulateness (5):___  
-Spelling and grammar (5):___  
-Margins (1):___  
-Length (1):___  
-Page Numbers (1):__
Department of Political Science: Policies on Plagiarism

Plagiarism means offering the words or ideas of another person as one's own. The material copied or paraphrased may consist of a few phrases or sentences, or an entire passage or paper. Whatever its form and extent, plagiarism constitutes two kinds of failure: 1) Failure to perform the basic tasks expected in any paper -- original mental effort and expression; 2) Potentially, the moral failure of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism may be deliberate (as in the submission of a paper written in whole or part by another student, purchased from an essay bank, or cut and pasted from web sites) or the result of carelessness through failure to provide proper documentation.

All directly copied or quoted material must be enclosed in quotation marks and the source must be clearly identified in a footnote. The source of any paraphrased material or ideas must also be properly documented. Failure to do so is plagiarism.

The procedure for handling cases of suspected plagiarism at Memorial University is set out in the University Calendar. All cases of suspected plagiarism must be reported to the Department Head in accordance with the University Calendar General Regulations. Depending on the circumstances and the degree of plagiarism involved, the Department of Political Science normally handles first offenders in accordance with the Procedures for Informal Resolution. The Department maintains a list of students who have been found guilty of plagiarism, and in the case of a second offence or in particularly serious cases of plagiarism, the Procedures for Formal Resolution will be followed. The penalty in these cases may be probation, suspension or expulsion in addition to the grade of 0 for the work concerned.

If in any doubt about what plagiarism consists of, consult with your instructor or refer to any standard work on writing essays and research papers. The Faculty of Arts Writing Centre (SN2053) can also provide relevant information. The notes on proper documentation below may be of assistance.

Notes on Proper Documentation

A good political science paper contains a logical argument built on solid evidence. While the evidence may be that of first-hand observation and study, evidence for most student papers will come from books, journals, newspapers, and government documents. Documentation in the form of footnotes, endnotes, or in-text references (with page numbers) must be provided for all facts, ideas, or interpretations which are not considered to be common knowledge. An acceptable rule of thumb for determining whether an item is one of common knowledge would be if the information is readily available in a number of different sources. An example may help.

It is common knowledge that Martin Luther King, Jr. was a black civil rights activist who was jailed in Alabama for leading a march against segregation in the early 1960s. No footnote would be required for such a fact.
A footnote would, however, be required for a statement such as: *Martin Luther King, Jr. expressed disappointment that southern religious leaders urged people to comply with desegregation not because it was morally right but because it was the law.*

In the latter case, the reader might want to check that Rev. King actually did express those views. A good guideline to follow is to ask yourself where your understanding of the thoughts, beliefs, or ideas of an individual or a group came from. If you don't know, are you sure that your understanding is accurate? If it isn't, then don't use it. If you do know, then state the source.

A common misperception is that footnotes only have to be given for direct quotations. This is not correct: footnotes must be provided in all cases where an idea, belief, action, or thought is attributed to an individual or group.

A footnote would be required for the following quotation from page 14 of the province's Strategic Economic Plan. "The private sector must be the engine of growth. While it is the role of government to create an economic and social environment that promotes competitiveness, it is the enterprising spirit of the private sector that will stimulate lasting economic growth."

A footnote would also be required for the following statement. *The Strategic Economic Plan argues that the private sector must be the basis of economic growth in the province.*

Similarly, a footnote must be provided whenever you "borrow" a particular idea, interpretation, or argument from a known source.

**Footnote and Documentation Style Guide**

Canadian political scientists employ a variety of citation styles in their work. Examples of proper organization and citation style may be found in any volume of the Canadian Journal of Political Science (CJPS) (available online and in print in the Queen Elizabeth II Library). The CJPS currently requires authors to submit their work using in-text citations. Students may avail of the CJPS Editorial Style Guidelines or our Political Science Style Guide which outline an acceptable usage of in-text citations for assignments submitted to Department of Political Science classes.