

PO909-20 Justice and Equality

26/27

Department

Politics & International Studies

Level

Taught Postgraduate Level

Module leader

Katy Wells

Credit value

20

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

Should the government make sure that you are not lonely? What makes an act of rudeness a microaggression, and is a microaggression an act of injustice? Is there something suspect about state support for marriage?

These are just some of the questions we will address in Justice & Equality. In this module, students engage with cutting-edge topics in political philosophy, like justice and social deprivation, marriage, microaggressions, gentrification and homelessness. The aim is that, by the end of the module, students should be able to propose and defend their own arguments in one of these areas.

For those new to political philosophy, there is a short introductory component covering key thinkers on both the left and right of contemporary normative thought.

The module is taught via a weekly two-hour seminar, structured as a discussion of a key issue or thinker.

Module aims

The aims of the module are:

- To enable students to understand and evaluate key arguments in recent moral and political theory
- To develop students' understanding of some key questions that arise in theorizing justice and equality
- To develop students' skills in the identification and interpretation of relevant texts in normative inquiry
- To foster the ability to analyse and evaluate opposing normative arguments

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

During the module, we will study topics such as the following: John Rawls, John Tomasi's Free Market Fairness, Luck and Social Egalitarianism, Justice and Social Deprivation, Microaggressions, Marriage, Homelessness and Gentrification.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an advanced knowledge of key arguments and thinkers in recent moral and political theory
- Analyse and evaluate at an advanced level opposing normative arguments concerning justice and equality
- Demonstrate enhanced key skills such as written and oral communication skills, problem solving, working with others, and information technology skills
- Construct and substantiate a comprehensive and sophisticated argument for a particular position

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

[Specific reading list for the module](#)

Subject specific skills

By the end of the modules students will be able to:

Demonstrate an advanced knowledge of key arguments and thinkers in recent moral and political theory

Analyse and evaluate at an advanced level opposing normative arguments concerning justice and equality

Demonstrate enhanced key skills such as written and oral communication skills, problem solving, working with others, and information technology skills

Construct and substantiate a comprehensive and sophisticated argument for a particular position

Transferable skills

Advanced critical thinking and analytical skills, such as identifying premises and conclusions of arguments; determining whether the conclusions follow from the premises; and understanding the practical implications of theoretical commitments.

Advanced oral and written communication skills: constructing a case for a particular position, and defending a particular viewpoint, both orally and in writing.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Seminars	9 sessions of 2 hours (9%)
Private study	182 hours (91%)
Total	200 hours

Private study description

All students are expected to prepare thoroughly for the seminar, by reading the core texts and reflecting on the seminar questions. They will also be expected to prepare and write their assessment essay.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A2

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Written Assignment	100%		Yes (extension)

Weighting Study time Eligible for self-certification

5000 word essay

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Written feedback will be provided on the assessment.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- TPOS-M9PW Double MA in Politics and International Service (with American University, Washington DC)
 - Year 1 of M9PW Politics and International Service Double MA (with American University)
 - Year 1 of M95P Politics and International Service: Big Data and Quantitative Methods (Double Degree - AU)
 - Year 1 of M95L Politics and International Service: International Development (Double Degree - AU)
 - Year 1 of M95B Politics and International Service: International Political Economy (Double Degree - AU)
 - Year 1 of M95C Politics and International Service: International Politics and East Asia (Double Degree - AU)
 - Year 1 of M95D Politics and International Service: International Politics and Europe (Double Degree - AU)
 - Year 1 of M95E Politics and International Service: International Relations (Double Degree - AU)
 - Year 1 of M95G Politics and International Service: International Security (Double Degree - AU)
 - Year 1 of M95K Politics and International Service: Political and Legal Theory (Double Degree - AU)
 - Year 1 of M95H Politics and International Service: Public Policy (Double Degree - AU)
 - Year 1 of M95N Politics and International Service: Research in Politics and International Studies (American University)
 - Year 1 of M95J Politics and International Service: United States Foreign Policy (Double Degree - AU)