BASIC PROGRAM of LIBERAL EDUCATION for ADULTS

Summer Quarter 2024

John Rawls: A Theory of Justice

<table>
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<tr>
<th>INSTRUCTOR</th>
<th>DATES AND TIMES</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael R. Jones</td>
<td>COURSE LENGTH: 8 Weeks</td>
<td>Remote Course</td>
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<td>DATES: June 13 – August 15</td>
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<td>No class: July 4, July 25</td>
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EMAIL: mrjones@uchicago.edu
Instructor can be contacted through Canvas message

|                     | DAY OF THE WEEK: Thursday            | COURSE CODE and SECTION: |
|                     | TIMES: 9:30am to 12:45pm             | BASC 70249 24U1          |
|                     |                                       | PREREQUISITES: None      |

Remote courses require you to login to Canvas to access the Zoom Classroom. You will receive an invitation to join Canvas about a week before your course begins. Please visit https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/academic-programs/online/learning-resources/liberal-arts to find Canvas login instructions, Zoom instructions, and student training sessions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

We will read and discuss John Rawls’s *A Theory of Justice*. This book is a comprehensive and influential attempt to provide a philosophical justification for a conception of justice that supports civil, economic, and political liberties within tolerant democratic political institutions. Rawls carries out his argument by means of a version of social contract theory that seeks to replace more familiar appeals to utility and efficiency. The book has been widely read and vigorously challenged since the first version was published in 1971. We will read it together and examine its arguments for ourselves.

REQUIRED TEXTS


Students can purchase books at the Gleacher Center Bookstore online at https://chicagobooth.bncollege.com/shop/chicagobooth/page/find-textbooks using the Textbook order form, or by using the ISBN number to order the correct edition elsewhere.
## WEEKLY READING SCHEDULE

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<th>DAY</th>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>READING ASSIGNMENT</th>
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| WEEK 1  
June 13 | Rawls | Chapter I, Justice as Fairness, Sections 1-4; pages 3-19; Chapter II, The Principles of Justice, Sections 11-17; pages 52-93 |
| WEEK 2  
June 20 | Rawls | Chapter III, The Original Position; pages 102-167 |
| WEEK 3  
June 27 | Rawls | Chapter IV, Equal Liberty; pages 171-227 |
| WEEK 4  
July 11 | Rawls | Chapter V, Distributive Shares; pages 228-292 |
| WEEK 5  
July 18 | Rawls | Chapter VI, Duty and Obligation; pages 293-343 |
| WEEK 6  
August 1 | Rawls | Chapter VII, Goodness as Rationality; pages 347-396 |
| WEEK 7  
August 8 | Rawls | Chapter VIII, The Sense of Justice; pages 397-449 |
| WEEK 8  
August 15 | Rawls | Chapter IX, The Good of Justice; pages 450-514 |

Students will receive an invitation to join the Graham School Student Community Canvas Site, a place to read announcements, have discussions, ask questions, and find resources.

**DISABILITY INFORMATION**

Student Disability Services (SDS) works to provide resources, support and accommodations for all students with disabilities and works to remove physical and attitudinal barriers, which may prevent their full participation in the University community. Students that would like to request accommodations should contact SDS in advance of the first class meeting at 773.702.6000 or disabilities@uchicago.edu.