

FINO PhD Program in Philosophy
Ethics and Politics Curriculum
A.Y. 2023-2024

Work In Progress Seminar

The seminar will be held online on Mondays from 2.30 pm according to the following schedule

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	DATE	Speaker	Title	
1	March 11	Matilde Liberti	Defining Paradigm Shifts	
2	March 18	Matteo Boccacci	Freedom as a positional good: inequalities and the value of liberty	
3	March 25	Camilla Barbieri	Territory is not like property and why we should care about the difference	
4	April 8	Giulia Cantamessi	Moral Intuitions and Recalcitrance	

5	April 15	Davide Versari	Political Cognitivism: What Is It and What to Do With It	
6	April 29	Rita O. Ezugwu	Territorial rights, climate change and conservation of natural resources	
7	May 6	Laura Gorrieri	Speech acts and LLMs	
8	May 13	Claudia Manzione	An Unspeakable Radicality: Care Ethics and Abortion	
9	May 20	Luca Quinto	Wisdom and Sympathy in David Hume's Moral Philosophy	

The courses are open to all Curricula, all years of the FINO PhD program, but they are mandatory for cycles 38 and 39 of the Ethics and Politics Curriculum

1. Issues in Contemporary Political Philosophy

Description

This seminar, co-led by Dr. Michele Bocchiola (Université de Genève) and Prof. Federico Zuolo (Università di Genova), is structured into two parts. The first segment delves into the contemporary philosophical debate on privacy, exploring its values and the mechanisms in place for its protection. The second segment focuses on the problem of agents of change (and justice) in contemporary political philosophy.

Organization

The seminar will unfold in two 5-hour modules, each featuring breaks. During each module, doctoral students will engage in discussions about the assigned papers, following a brief presentation (10 min.) by one of their peers. To conclude each module, the instructors will present their own paper on the subject. Active participation is expected from every student, involving reading and offering comments on each paper during the general debate. Each student will choose which paper (or chapter) to present and will introduce the discussion. All students are required to read in advance all the papers to be discussed.

Duration and Credits

- 10 hours: 5 credits

Teaching period:

22/4/2024, 14:00-19:00

23/4/2024, 9:00-12:00 and 14:00-16:00

Venue: TBC**Readings for module 1:**

- Judith Jarvis Thomson, “The Right to Privacy,” *Philosophy & Public Affairs* 4, no. 4 (1975): 295-314. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2265075>
- Thomas Scanlon, “Thomson on Privacy,” *Philosophy & Public Affairs* 4, no. 4 (1975): 315–22. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2265076>
- Andrei Marmor, “What Is the Right to Privacy?” *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 43, no. 1 (2015): 3-26.
- Carissa Véliz, “The Hybrid Account of Privacy,” in *The Ethics of Privacy and Surveillance* (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2024), pp. 75-85.

For those unfamiliar with the topic, a general introduction to the philosophical debate on privacy is warmly recommended, although not compulsory:

- Beate Roessler and Judith DeCew, “Privacy,” *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2023 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <<https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2023/entries/privacy/>>.
- Carissa Véliz, “Ten Accounts of Privacy-And Their Shortcomings,” in *The Ethics of Privacy and Surveillance* (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2024), pp. 47-74.

Readings for module 2:

- Onora O'Neill, "Agents of Justice", *Metaphilosophy* 32(1/2): 2001, pp. 180–195
- Lea Ypi, *Global Justice and Avant-Garde Political Agency*. New York, Oxford University Press: 2012, chapters 2 & 7 (the students who will present this text should get in touch with professor Zuolo to discuss some practical details)
- Monique Deveaux, "The Global Poor as Agents of Justice", *Journal of Moral Philosophy*, 12: 2015, pp. 125–150
- Ben Laurence, "The Question of the Agent of Change", *The Journal of Political Philosophy*, 28(4): 2020, pp. 355–377

2. J.S. Mill and the Problem of Freedom

9-10 May 2024

Teacher: Corrado Fumagalli (corrado.fumagalli@unige.it)

Description

Beginning with a close reading of key passages from John Stuart Mill, this course will explore foundational normative and conceptual issues in contemporary political theory, such as the connection between individual freedom and emancipation, the concept of progress, and the relationship between individual and collective emancipation.

Organization

The course will consist of five 2-hour sessions. There will be four student-lead seminars and one lecture (presentation and Q&A session). For each seminar session, 1 or 2 course participants will give a critical 10-minute presentation of the readings. A brief outline of each presentation is due by May, the 2nd.

Credits

10 hours: 5 credits

Requirements

All students must (i) do the readings, (ii) give a critical presentation, and (iii) draft a written outline of their presentation.

Compulsory readings

J.S. Mill, *On Liberty*, chapter 1, chapter 2, chapter 3.

J.S. Mill, *Chapters on Socialism*, “Introductory”, “The Socialist Objection to the Present Order of Society”, “The Socialist Objections of the Present Order of Society Examined”.

J.S. Mill, *On Utilitarianism*, chapter 1, chapter 2.

*** Pick whichever edition you prefer

Extra (nonmandatory) readings

Brink, D.O. (2013) *Mill's Progressive Principles*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

DiIulio, J.P. (2022) *Completely Free: The Moral and Political Vision of John Stuart Mill*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Ikuta, J.C. (2020) *Contesting Conformity. Democracy and the Paradox of Political Belonging*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, chapter 3.

Skorupski, J. (2007) *Why Read Mill Today?* London: Routledge.

3. Questions in contemporary normative ethics

Description

This seminar, co-led by Prof. Massimo Reichlin (Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele) and Prof. Maria Silvia Vaccarezza (Università di Genova), is structured into two parts. The first segment delves into the debate on the notions of deontology and of agent-relative restrictions to define normative accounts alternative to consequentialism. The second segment focuses on the possibility of providing an account of right act based on an ethics of virtue.

Organization

The seminar will unfold in two 5-hour modules, each featuring breaks.

In both modules, there will be an introductory talk by the instructors; then, students will divide in 2 groups to present the assigned papers. Each presentation will be followed by a general discussion.

Duration and Credits

- 10 hours
- 5 credits

Teaching period:

23/5/2024, 14:00-19:00

24/5/2024, 9:00-12:00 and 14:00-16:00

Venue: TBC**Readings for module 1:**

- Gerald F. Gaus, “What is Deontology? Part One: Orthodox Views”, *Journal of Value Inquiry*, 35 (2001): 27-42
- Asger Sørensen, “Deontology – born and kept in servitude by utilitarianism”, *Danish Yearbook of Philosophy*, 43 (2008): 69-96
- David McNaughton and Piers Rawling, On Defending Deontology, *Ratio*, 11 (1998): 37-54
- Thomas Scanlon, *What We Owe to Each Other*, Cambridge, Mass.: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1998, pp. 78-107
- Stephen Darwall, *The Second-Person Standpoint: Morality, Respect, and Accountability*, Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2006, pp. 3-25.

Readings for module 2:

- Julia Annas, *Being Virtuous and Doing the Right Thing*, «Proceedings and Addresses of the American Philosophical Association», 78 (2003), 2, pp. 61-75.
- Damian Cox, *Agent-Based Theories of Right Action*, «Ethical Theory and Moral Practice», 9 (2006), 5, pp. 505-515.
- John Hacker-Wright, *Virtue Ethics without Right Action: Anscombe, Foot, and Contemporary Virtue Ethics*, «Journal of Value Inquiry» 44 (2010), pp. 209-224.
- Christine Swanton, *A Virtue-Ethical Account of Right Action*, «Ethics» 112 (201), 1, pp. 32-52.

Liezl van Zyl, *Qualified-agent virtue ethics*, «South African Journal of Philosophy» 30 (2011), 2, pp. 219-228.

