

# COURSE DETAIL

## CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THEORY

**Country**

United Kingdom - England

**Host Institution**

University of London, Royal Holloway

**Program(s)**

University of London, Royal Holloway

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Political Science

**UCEAP Course Number**

126

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THEORY

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

CONTEMP POL THEORY

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

4.00

## Course Description

This course introduces some of the main texts and debates in contemporary political theory, and provides students with the critical skills necessary to identify their strengths and weaknesses. It examines some of the key concepts in political theory, including freedom, equality, and democracy. Students consider the following questions: How should we treat fellow citizens? Do we have a moral obligation to obey the law, and when should we disobey it? What should be the punishment if we do? Are nations and cultures morally significant? On what basis should citizens be treated equally? Is democracy a means to an end or an end in itself? What obligations do we have to the global poor? Equipped with answers to these questions and an understanding of the key concepts, the course focuses on the theoretical debates occasioned by the publication of Rawls's *A THEORY OF JUSTICE* (1971). These include critical objections raised by communitarian, feminist, egalitarian, realist, and agonist writers and philosophers of race.

## Language(s) of Instruction

English

## Host Institution Course Number

PR2490

## Host Institution Course Title

CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THEORY

## Host Institution Campus

Royal Holloway, University of London

## Host Institution Faculty

## Host Institution Degree

## Host Institution Department

Politics and International Relations

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