

COURSE DETAIL

PERSONAL AUTONOMY AND POLITICAL LIBERTY

Country

France

Host Institution

Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

Program(s)

Sciences Po Paris

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Political Science Philosophy

UCEAP Course Number

102

UCEAP Course Suffix

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UCEAP Official Title

PERSONAL AUTONOMY AND POLITICAL LIBERTY

UCEAP Transcript Title

AUTONOMY & LIBERTY

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

Autonomous persons live according to their own choices and decisions, are not unduly influenced by external factors or by the choices of others, and are self-governing. An autonomous political community is one that is fiscally, institutionally, and militarily independent of other, rival communities. In both cases, autonomy has been promoted by modern moral and political philosophy since Rousseau and Kant as a rational ideal to be attained with the cause of emancipation from tradition, superstition, and despotism. This course argues that the claim to political autonomy is not only largely unattainable but is (in present circumstances) in many ways reactionary, and the freedom of individuals makes little sense without a commitment on their part to some larger “good”. This seminar examines recent writings by philosophers on the intersection of personal and political freedom and asks how and to what extent we have the means of living up to one of the foundational ideals of the Enlightenment.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

DSPO 1870A

Host Institution Course Title

PERSONAL AUTONOMY AND POLITICAL LIBERTY

Host Institution Campus

English Elective

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Political Science

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