

# COURSE DETAIL

## IDEAL AND NON-IDEAL POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY IN PLATO

**Country**

Germany

**Host Institution**

Humboldt University Berlin

**Program(s)**

Humboldt University Berlin

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Philosophy

**UCEAP Course Number**

138

**UCEAP Course Suffix**

A

**UCEAP Official Title**

IDEAL AND NON-IDEAL POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY IN PLATO

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

POLTCL PHIL PLATO

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

### **Course Description**

This course examines Plato's political philosophy through the lens of John Rawls's distinction between ideal and non-ideal theory. Rawls characterizes ideal theory as assuming full compliance with the demands of justice, while non-ideal theory addresses the conditions under which such compliance fails. By engaging closely with Plato's *Republic* and *Laws*, the class explores how each text embodies or challenges these frameworks in order to achieve a greater understanding of the aims of Plato's political thought and the merits versus limits of philosophical idealization.

### **Language(s) of Instruction**

English

### **Host Institution Course Number**

51041

### **Host Institution Course Title**

IDEAL AND NON-IDEAL POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY IN PLATO

### **Host Institution Course Details**

<https://agnes.hu-berlin.de/lupo/rds?state=verpublish&status=init&vmfile=no&publ...>

### **Host Institution Campus**

### **Host Institution Faculty**

### **Host Institution Degree**

### **Host Institution Department**

Institut für Philosophie

### **Course Last Reviewed**

2025-2026

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