HUMAN RIGHTS I


Tu, 27 Sept.

WHAT ARE RIGHTS?

HISTORICAL EVOLUTION AND ANALYTICAL DISTINCTIONS. Finnis *Natural Law and Natural Rights*; Wellman, *A Theory of Rights*, pp. 7-15; Waldron “A Right to Do Wrong.”

Th, 29 Sept.

NATURAL RIGHTS. Locke *Second Treatise of Government*, §§4-6; Maritain *The Rights of Man and Natural Law*; MacDonald, “Natural Rights”

Tu, 4 Oct.

CHOICE THEORY. Hart, “Are There Any Natural Rights?”

Th, 6 Oct.

INTEREST THEORY. Raz, “On the Nature of Rights.”

Tu, 11 Oct.


Th, 13 Oct.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RIGHTS AND DUTIES

ABSOLUTE RIGHTS. Gewirth, “Are There Any Absolute Rights?”

Tu, 18 Oct.

ABSOLUTISM AND UTILITARIANISM. Nagel, “War and Massacre.”

Th, 20 Oct.


Th, 27 Oct.

BASIC RIGHTS. Cranston, “Human Rights, Real and Supposed”; Shue, *Basic Rights*, pp. 5-34.

Tu, 1 Nov.

BASIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES. Shue, *Basic Rights*, pp. 35-64

Th, 3 Nov.


Tu, 8 Nov.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND CULTURAL DIFFERENCES


Th, 10 Nov.

RELATIVISM II. Williams, “Human Rights and Relativism”; Waldron, “How to Argue for a Universal Claim”

Tu, 15 Nov.


REVIEW Tu, 29 Nov.

MATERIALS
The Shue book may be purchased at the Seminary Co-op Bookstore; the other readings are in a xeroxed packet that may be purchased from the Humanities Copy office in Walker 003. All readings are on reserve in the Regenstein Library.

Comments on lectures and announcements will be posted on the web at this address: http://humanities.uchicago.edu/faculty/mgreen/HumanRtsF05/

The instructor for this course is Michael Green. Office: 210 Stuart. Phone: 702-8503. Office hours: Thursdays 2-4. The course assistants are Adam Gatward <gatward@uchicago.edu> and David Giles <gilesda@uchicago.edu>.

ASSIGNMENTS
There will be three assignments: (1) a take home mid-term exam, due Friday, 28 October; (2) an 8 page paper, due Monday, 21 November; (3) a final exam on Thursday, 8 December.

Please take note of the following policies. (1) All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course. (2) Late papers will be accepted without question but penalized at the rate of one-eighth of a grade a day, with exceptions in extremely unusual circumstances. (3) Plagiarism, presenting someone else’s work as your own, will result in failure in this course and will be reported to the relevant academic authorities. If you are unsure about exactly what counts as plagiarism, please ask.

READINGS


