

Philosophy 446

Issues in Contemporary Political Philosophy: The Microcircuitry of Democracy

Tuesday 6 – 9, Arts 150.

Instructor : Daniel Weinstock

3690 Peel, office 201.

Office hours: Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:30, or by appointment.

Email:

Vj qo cu" Rqi i g." ðUgrh-Constituting Constituencies to Enhance Freedom, Equality, and
Rctvkr cvkp'kp'F go qetcvkr'Vj gqtkguö.'kp'*Theoria*, no. 99 (2002), pp. 26 ó 54.

Marcus Carlson Häggrot, « Geographic Legislative Constituencies : A Defence », vol. 26, no. 5
(2023), pp. 301 ó 330.

Week 6 Should Voting be Mandatory?

Jason Brennan and Lisa Hill, *Compulsory Voting: For and Against* (excerpts).

Week 7 Who Should Vote? The Case of Children

F cplgn'Y gkpuxqem'ðY j cvu'luq'Hwpp{'Cdqw'Xqvkpi 'Tki j w'hqt'Ej kftgpAö.'kp'*Georgetown Journal
of Law and Public Policy*, vol. 18 (2020)

Go krgg'Ej cr o cp."öGrgvklp"Vlo g"Ci clp<Tgxkuklpi "vj g"Vgo r qtcn'Rtqr gt vku"qh'Grgvklpu"lp"vj g" Ci g"qh'Gctn' "Xqvkpi ö0

Week 12 Alternatives to Elections: Lottocracy

Crgzcpf gt "I wgttgq."öCi clpu"Grgvklpu<"Vj g"Nqwqetvle"Cngtvcvxgö."lp"*Philosophy & Public Affairs*, vol. 42, no. 2 (2014).

Ctcuj 'Cdk cf gj . 'öTgr tguvklp.'Dlecm gtcruo , Political Equality, and Sortition: Reconstituting vj g"Ugeqpf 'Ej co dgt"cu"c"Tcpf qo n' "Ugrvvgf 'Cuugo dn' ö."lp"*Perspectives on Politics*, vol. 19, no. 3 (2021).

Cppcdgmg"Ngxgt."öY j { "Tcpf qo "Ugrvklp"ku"P qv"Dgwt"vj cp"Grgvklpu"kh"Y g"Xcnwg"Rqrvlecn' Gs wcrk' "cpf "Rtkxce' ö."lp"*Washington University Review of Philosophy*, vol. 3 (2023)

Yann Allard-Vtgo dr' . "öVj g"Gr kungo le"Gf i g"qh'Grgvqtcn'Xqvkpi "qxgt"Nqwt' "Xqvkpi ö."lp"*Res Publica*, vol. 18, no. 3 (2012).

Week 13 Alternatives to Elections: Direct Democracy and “Liquid” Democracy

Hélène Landemore, *Open Democracy*, chs. 6, 8.

Christina Lafont, *Democracy without Shortcuts*, ch. 6.

Vtqxqt"Ncvlo gt."öRnwtcn'Xqvkpi "cpf "Rqrvlecn'Gs wcrk' <"C"Vj qwi j v"Gzr gtlo gpv"lp"F go qetvle" Vj ggt' ö."lp"*European Journal of Political Theory*, vol. 17, no. 1 (2015).

Ej tkvkcp" Dnwo " cpf "Ej tkvkpc" Kcdgr'\ wdgt." öNks wkf " F go qetce' <"Rqrvlecn." Rtdngo u." cpf " Rgtur gevkguö."lp"*Journal of Political Philosophy*, vol. 24, no. 2 (2016).

Assignments and evaluation

Grades for this class are based on four elements:

(1) Reading Reflections (10%)

Starting on week 3, you must submit 10 reflections on the required readings of the respective week. This assignment must be emailed to me by **1PM on the day of class** (please use **English 101** or similar as the subject line so we can distinguish these emails from other inquiries).

The assignment is:

After completing the required readings, write brief responses to the following 3 questions:

1. What are the main claims of the reading (1-2 sentences for each assigned item)?
2. What did you find surprising or interesting? Why? (1-2 sentences)
3. What did you find confusing? Why? (1-2 sentences)

Your responses will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis. If you submit all 10 and comply with the directives above, you get 10 points.

(2) Response paper (30%).

Short response paper (up to 1,000 words), discussing one of the book chapters/articles assigned for the course. This assignment can be submitted at any point during the semester but must be submitted **within one week** of the day that the piece you are responding to was discussed in class.

(3) Final paper proposal (10 %). **Due at the end of Week 9**

Please submit a detailed outline or draft of your final paper, which indicates the thesis you are planning to defend as well as the main steps of the argument. This is an opportunity for you to get feedback on your plan for the final paper.

