

# POS6933/LAS6938: Political Theory and Public Affairs

University of Florida

Spring 2022

<b>Instructor:</b>	Cristian Pérez Muñoz
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<b>Office</b>	Anderson 206
<b>Class Hours</b>	Tuesdays, Period 5 - 7 (11:45 AM - 2:45 PM)
<b>Classroom</b>	CBD 0224
<b>Office Hours</b>	Mondays (10 am–1 pm) (by appointment)

## Course Description

What is wrong, if any, with residential segregation? Do indigenous communities have the right to veto the expansion of the oil, mining, and energy business? Is economic growth desirable? Should punishment reduction be employed to influence perpetrators to cooperate with the authorities in confronting the problem of disappeared persons in transitional justice contexts? Do peasants have a right to resist expropriation processes? What is wrong with corruption and clientelism? On what grounds can states claim Antarctic Territory? Should we be concerned about informality and the underground economy? How can we define the demos of a given political community?

In this class, we will approach these and other normative questions through the methodological and substantive inputs of political theory. We will engage in exercises of applied political theory, in which conceptual and normative analysis will be informed by empirical research. In particular, our focus will be mostly centered on studying pressing issues occurring in Latin America. This regional focus will help us to contextualize and elaborate specific theoretical answers to the problems at hand. Likewise, we will aim to learn from these different contexts and understand their relevance and adaptability with other settings and circumstances.

## Course Objectives:

- Learn to identify and analyze complex theoretical arguments
- Apply analytical tools to address controversial issues and make informed choices about them.
- Learn to use comparative and applied methods in political theory

## Course Requirements

This course will have three instances of evaluation. Students will be evaluated based on their participation in class, three presentations, and a final paper ( 6000-8000 words long, single spaced). The characteristics of each instance of evaluation are explained below.

1. **Participation:** Students are expected to come to class with the readings completed and prepared for discussion. This is a seminar course in which each student is expected to participate actively. Absence will adversely affect your participation grade. Participation will represent 30% of the final grade.
2. **Class presentations:** Each student is expected to orally present a summary of three of the assigned readings for this course. These 20-minute presentations will be distributed and scheduled during the first day of class. Presentations will represent 30 % of the final grade (10 % each)
3. **Final paper:** The final paper will have to be 6000-8000 words long (single spaced, times new Roman 12 or equivalent). The academic paper should analyze one of the normative problems discussed in class, identify alternatives views to address that problem, and evaluate potential solutions. Further details of how to write this assignment will be given to you in class and on the course website. This item will represent the 40 % of the final grade.  
**Final paper is due on Friday 04/22**

### Grade Distribution:

Class participation	30%
Class presentations	30%
Final Paper	40%

### Letter Grade Distribution:

>= 94	A	74 - 76	C
90 - 93	A-	70 - 73	C-
87- 89	B+	67 - 69	D+
84 - 86	B	64 - 66	D
80 - 83	B-	60 - 63	D-
77 - 79	C+	<61	F

## Course Policies<sup>1</sup>

### Class Modality

As of now, this class will be offered in a face to face format. However, you will be notified in advance if we are required to return to distance learning at some point of the semester.

### During Class

These are challenging times for the whole world. We are a diverse group of people, and every one of us has a different relationship with the pandemic and its consequences. It is crucial to treat your instructor and classmates with respect and kindness during class meetings and activities. For more information on netiquette guidelines, see the [UF Netiquette Guide for Online Courses](#).

### Education during COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, the following practices are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- If you are not vaccinated, please consider getting vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this [link](#) for details on where to get your shot, including options that do not require an appointment. Students who receive the first dose of the vaccine somewhere off-campus and/or outside of Gainesville can still receive their second dose on campus.
- You are expected to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators. Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class. Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom.
- If you sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email [covid@shcc.ufl.edu](mailto:covid@shcc.ufl.edu)) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website for more information.
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect you are not permitted to use any on campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.

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<sup>1</sup>The items with an asterisk(\*) are textually copied from [UF Policy on Course Syllabi](#).

- Continue to regularly visit [coronavirus.UFHealth.org](https://coronavirus.UFHealth.org) for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.

### **Attendance Policy\***

Attendance at all lectures is mandatory and will be registered. A penalty of one point will be subtracted from the final grade for each unexcused absence. Late work is not accepted. Exceptions include documented illness, legal, or civic/university duty situations. If you miss an assignment and have a valid excuse, please email me within the same week to evaluate the situation and eventually arrange a makeup. "The requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies". [Click here to read the university attendance policies.](#)"

### **Recording\***

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

### **Student Privacy\***

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the Notification to Students of FERPA Rights.

### **Software Use\***

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

### **Grading Policy\***

This course is consistent with current UF grading policies for assigning grade points. For detailed information, visit this [link](#).

### **Academic Integrity and Honesty\***

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment. The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Honor Code](#). Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### **Accommodations for Disabilities\***

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### **Online Course Evaluation\***

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.

### **Technical Support\***

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

## Health and Wellness\*

- U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umat-ter@ufl.edu](mailto:umat-ter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care](#) website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit the [Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center](#) website.
- University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

## Disclaimer

The syllabus is a statement of intent. Please note that the schedule of activities and procedures in this course are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Any change in the syllabus will be communicated to all students in the class. Changes will be posted on Canvas and announced in class.

## Course Outline

**Readings:** All the required readings are available in [Canvas](#). The following are some recommended readings that can further your understanding on some of the topics we will address in class.

- Julia Driver. 2010. *Ethics: The Fundamentals*. John Wiley and Sons.
- Will Kymlicka. 2002. *Contemporary Political Philosophy: An introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.
- Andrew Cohen. 2015. *Philosophy, ethics, and public policy: An introduction*. Routledge.
- Jonathan Wolff. 2019. *Ethics and public policy: a philosophical inquiry*. Routledge.
- David Leopold and Marc Stears, eds. 2008. *Political theory: Methods and approaches*. Oxford University Press.
- Adrian Blau. ed. 2017. *Methods in Analytical Political Theory*. Cambridge University Press.

Week	Content/Reading assignments
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Introduction: Political theory as a tool for political analysis</b></li> <li>– (Tuesday (01/11)).</li> <li>– Jonathan Wolff. 2018. "Method in philosophy and public policy: Applied philosophy versus engaged philosophy." <i>The Routledge Handbook of Ethics and Public Policy</i>. Routledge, 2018. 13-24.</li> <li>– Adam Swift and Stuart White. 2008. "Political theory, social science, and real politics." In David Leopold and Marc Stears (edit) <i>Political Theory: Methods and Approaches</i>, Oxford University Press.</li> <li>– Ian Shapiro. 2002. "Problems, methods, and theories in the study of politics, or what's wrong with political science and what to do about it." <i>Political theory</i> 30.4 (2002): 596-619.</li> <li>– Ruth W. Grant. 2002. "Political Theory, Political Science, and Politics." <i>Political Theory</i> 30 (4): 577–595.</li> <li>– Zofia Stemplowska and Adam Swift. 2012. "Ideal and nonideal theory." <i>The Oxford Handbook of Political Philosophy</i>, pp. 373–389.</li> </ul>
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Territory</b></li> <li>– Tuesday (01/18)</li> <li>– Anna Stilz. 2011. "Nations, states, and territory." <i>Ethics</i> 121 (3) (2011): 572-601.</li> <li>– Mancilla, Alejandra. 2018. "The moral limits of territorial claims in Antarctica." <i>Ethics and International Affairs</i> 32 (3) (2018): 339–360.</li> <li>– Cara Nine. 2015. "Compromise and Original Acquisition: Explaining Rights to the Arctic." <i>Social Philosophy and Policy</i> 32(1): 149–170.</li> <li>– Margaret Moore. 2020. "Territorial Rights in Unoccupied Places." <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> (2020).</li> <li>– Avery Kolers. 2017. "Latin America in Theories of Territorial Rights." <i>Revista de Ciencia Política</i> 37 (3): 737–753.</li> </ul>

Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Institutional Divergence and Convergence</b></li> <li>– <u>Tuesday (01/25)</u></li> <li>– Joshua Simon. 2014. "The Americas' more perfect unions: New institutional insights from comparative political theory." <i>Perspectives on Politics</i> 12.4 (2014): 808-828.</li> <li>– Paulina Ochoa Espejo. 2012. "Paradoxes of popular sovereignty: A view from Spanish America." <i>The Journal of Politics</i> 74 (4): 1053-1065.</li> <li>– Gabriel Negretto and José Antonio Aguilar Rivera. 2000. "Rethinking the legacy of the liberal state in Latin America: The cases of Argentina (1853–1916) and Mexico (1857–1910)." <i>Journal of Latin American Studies</i> 32 (2): 361–397.</li> <li>– Edouard Glissant. 2008. "Creolization in the Making of the Americas," <i>Caribbean Quarterly</i> 54 (2008): 81–89</li> <li>– Adam Dahl. 2017. "The Black American Jacobins: Revolution, radical abolition, and the transnational turn", <i>Perspectives on Politics</i> 15 (3): 633–646.</li> </ul>
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Multiculturalism</b></li> <li>– <u>Tuesday (02/01)</u></li> <li>– Juliet Hooker. 2005. "Indigenous inclusion/black exclusion: Race, ethnicity and multicultural citizenship in Latin America." <i>Journal of Latin American Studies</i> 37 (2): 285-310.</li> <li>– Rodolfo Stavenhagen. 2002. "Indigenous peoples and the state in Latin America: An ongoing debate." In <i>Multiculturalism in Latin America</i>. Palgrave Macmillan, London, 2002. 24-44.</li> <li>– Donna Lee Van Cott. 2010. "Indigenous peoples' politics in Latin America." <i>Annual Review of Political Science</i> 13 (2010): 385–405.</li> <li>– Jose Antonio Aguilar Rivera. 2013. "Multiculturalism and Constitutionalism in Latin America." <i>Notre Dame J. Int'l &amp; Comp. L.</i> 4 (2013): 19–44.</li> </ul>
<b>Week</b>	<b>Content/Reading assignments</b>
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informality</b></li> <li>– <u>Tuesday (02/08)</u></li> <li>– Alisha Holland. 2017. <i>Forbearance as redistribution: The politics of informal welfare in Latin America</i>. Cambridge University Press, 2017. (Chapter 1, pp.12-40)</li> <li>– Richard Epstein.1993. "The Moral and Practical Dilemmas of an Underground Economy Symposium: The Informal Economy". <i>Yale Law Journal</i> 103: 2157–2178.</li> <li>– Diana Bocarejo. 2018. "Thinking with (il) legality: the ethics of living with bonanzas." <i>Current Anthropology</i> 59 (18): 48–59.</li> <li>– George L Priest. 1993."The ambiguous moral foundations of the underground economy". <i>Yale Law Journal</i> 103: 2259.</li> </ul>

<p>Week 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Residential segregation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <u>Tuesday (02/15)</u></li> <li>– Iris Marion Young. "Residential segregation and differentiated citizenship". <i>Citizenship Studies</i>, 3 (2):237–252.</li> <li>– Tommy Shelby. 2007. "Justice, Deviance, and the Dark Ghetto" <i>Philosophy and Public Affairs</i> Vol. 35, No. 2: 126-160.</li> <li>– María José Álvarez-Rivadulla. 2007. "Golden ghettos: gated communities and class residential segregation in Montevideo, Uruguay". <i>Environment and Planning</i>, 39(1):47–63.</li> <li>– Bart Van Leeuwen. 2010. "Dealing with urban diversity: Promises and challenges of city life for intercultural citizenship." <i>Political theory</i> 38 (5): 631–657.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Week 7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Corruption and Clientelism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <u>Tuesday (02/22)</u></li> <li>– Bo Rothstein. 2014. "What is the opposite of corruption?", <i>Third World Quarterly</i>, 35:5, 737–752,</li> <li>– Emmanuela Ceva and Maria Ferretti. 2017. "Political corruption". <i>Philosophy Compass</i>.12.</li> <li>– Robert Gay. 1998. "Rethinking clientelism: demands, discourses and practices in contemporary Brazil." <i>European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies</i>: 7–24.</li> <li>– Mark Philp and Elizabeth David-Barrett. 2015. "Realism about political corruption." <i>Annual Review of Political Science</i> 18 (2015): 387–402.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Week 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Immigration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <u>Tuesday (03/01)</u></li> <li>– David Miller. 2004. "Immigration: The Case for Limits", in <i>Contemporary Debates in Applied Ethics</i>, ed. Andrew Cohen and Christopher Wellman (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 2004), pp. 193–206</li> <li>– Chandran Kukathas, "The Case for Open Immigration," in <i>Contemporary Debates in Applied Ethics</i>, ed. Andrew Cohen and Christopher Wellman (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 2004), pp. 207–220</li> <li>– Juan Espindola. 2021. "Compensatory justice and the wrongs of deportation." <i>Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy</i> (2021): 1-28.</li> <li>– Devesh Kapur and John McHale. 2006. "Should a Cosmopolitan Worry about the Brain Drain?" <i>Ethics and International Affairs</i> 20 (2006): 305–320</li> <li>– Kieran Oberman. 2013. "Can brain drain justify immigration restrictions?" <i>Ethics</i> 123(3):427–455.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Week	Content/Reading assignments
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Peasant Movements</b></li> <li>– <u>Tuesday (03/15)</u></li> <li>– James C Scott. 1977. <i>The Moral Economy of the Peasant</i>. Vol. 315. Yale University Press. (Introduction and chapter 1)</li> <li>– James Petras and Henry Veltmeyer. "The peasantry and the state in Latin America: a troubled past, an uncertain future." <i>The Journal of Peasant Studies</i> 29, (3-4): 41–82.</li> <li>– Bernardo Mançano Fernandes. 2020. "Peasant Movements in Latin America." <i>Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics</i>. 2020.</li> <li>– Marc Edelman. 2015. "Bringing the moral economy back in to the study of 21st century transnational peasant movements." <i>American Anthropologist</i> 107(3): 331–345.</li> </ul>
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transitional Justice</b></li> <li>– <u>(Tuesday (03/22)</u></li> <li>– Jon Elster. 2004. "Moral Dilemmas of Transitional Justice." In <i>Practical Contexts: New Philosophical Essays</i>, edited by Peter Baumann and Monica Betzler, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 295–315</li> <li>– Eric Posner and Adrian Vermeule. 2004. "Transitional justice as ordinary justice." <i>Harvard Law Review</i> 117(3): 761–825.</li> <li>– Juan Espindola. 2021. "Bargaining for the disappeared? Rewarding perpetrators in transitional justice contexts." <i>Journal of Social Philosophy</i> (2021).</li> <li>– Colleen Murphy. 2021. "Judging the justice of the Colombian Final Agreement", in <i>The Colombian Peace Agreement</i>, 141–158</li> </ul>
Week 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Democratic Innovations and Citizen Participation</b></li> <li>– <u>Tuesday (03/29)</u></li> <li>– Boaventura de Sousa Santos. 1998. "Participatory Budgeting in Porto Alegre: Toward a Redistributive Democracy." <i>Politics and Society</i> 26 (4): 461–510.</li> <li>– Archon Fung and Erik Olin Wright. 2001. "Deepening democracy: Innovations in empowered participatory governance." <i>Politics and Society</i> 29.1 (2001): 5–41.</li> <li>– Carole Pateman. 2012. "Participatory democracy revisited." <i>Perspectives on politics</i> 10 (1): 7–19.</li> <li>– James Fishkin. 2018. "Deliberative polling", In <i>The Oxford Handbook of Deliberative Democracy</i> Edited by André Bachtiger, John S. Dryzek, Jane Mansbridge, and Mark E. Warren.</li> <li>– Thamy Pogrebinschi. 2018 "Deliberative Democracy in Latin America." In <i>The Oxford Handbook of Deliberative Democracy</i> Edited by André Bachtiger, John S. Dryzek, Jane Mansbridge, and Mark E. Warren, pp. 828–841.</li> </ul>

<p>Week 12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Environment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <u>Tuesday (04/05)</u></li> <li>– Eduardo Gudynas. 2011. "Buen Vivir: today's tomorrow." <i>Development</i> 54 (4): 441–447.</li> <li>– Thomas Heyd. 2004. "Themes in Latin American environmental ethics: community, resistance and autonomy." <i>Environmental Values</i> 13(2): 223–242.</li> <li>– Unai Villalba. 2013. "Buen Vivir vs Development: a paradigm shift in the Andes?." <i>Third World Quarterly</i> 34 (8): 1427–1442.</li> <li>– Cristian Timmermann. 2019. "A Latin American perspective to agricultural ethics." In <i>Controversies in Latin American Bioethics</i>. Springer, Cham. 203–217.</li> <li>– Roy H May Jr. 2017. "Pachasophy: landscape ethics in the Central Andes mountains of South America." <i>Environmental Ethics</i> 39 (3): 301–319.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Week 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Economic growth and neo-extractivism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <u>Tuesday (04/12)</u></li> <li>– Julie L Rose. 2020. "On the value of economic growth." <i>Politics, Philosophy and Economics</i> 19 (2): 128–153.</li> <li>– David Plunkett. 2021. "The varieties of idealization and the politics of economic growth: a case study on modality and the methodology of normative political philosophy." <i>Inquiry</i> (2021): 1-39.</li> <li>– Maristella Svampa. 2019. <i>Neo-extractivism in Latin America. Socio-environmental Conflicts, the Territorial Turn, and New Political Narratives</i>. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.</li> <li>– William Galston. 2014. <i>The New Challenge to Market Democracies: The Political and Social Costs of Economic Stagnation</i>. Brookings Institution Press, 2014.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Week 14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Course Summary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <u>(Tuesday (04/19)</u></li> <li>– No readings assigned</li> </ul> </li> </ul>