

UNIVERSITY CORE CURRICULUM

SECTION III. INTEGRATIVE STUDIES - INTERDISCIPLINARY

1. COURSE NUMBER: **PHIL 309i** SEMESTER HOURS: **3**

COURSE TITLE: **Philosophy of Politics, Law and Justice**
Start Date: Fall 1996
2. COURSE FORMAT: Debate and discussion format (faculty). Average class size: 35.
3. STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Students should be able to: (a) better understand historical arguments of social and political philosophies; (b) apply (a) to contemporary political, legal and justice-oriented issues; and (c) think critically in an academic context.
4. DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION: The course will acquaint students with classical theories of law as justice such as Aristotlean, utilitarian, Marxian, Kantian, Platonic, and Thomistic views, as well as modern and contemporary theories such as Nietzschean, feminist, Rawlsian, and communitarian theories. The students will then consider various political issues such as: political correctness, legalization of drug use, euthanasia, abortion on demand, and capital punishment. Exploring philosophical theories of law and justice will enable students to approach controversial political issues in a systematic way that places them in an historical perspective. This will equip students for critical reflection on pressing political, legal and moral problems.
5. REQUIRED READING: Subject to change. Rosen and Wolff, eds., *Political Thought*; supplemental readings will be provided.
6. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:
 - In-class essays
 - In-class exams
 - Final
7. ADVANCED UCC COURSE(S): None

6/15/04