

HUL 258: Social and Political Philosophy
IInd Semester, 2017-18

Arudra Burra
Department of Humanities and Social Science
Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi

Reading packet I

1. Hugh LaFollette, “Theorizing about Ethics” and “Reading Philosophy,” from *Ethics in Practice*
2. James Rachels, “The Utilitarian Approach” and “The Debate over Utilitarianism” from *Elements of Moral Philosophy*
3. Shelley Kagan, “The Good,” from *Normative Ethics*
4. Peter Singer, “Rich and Poor” from *Practical Ethics*

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Reading packet II

1. United Nations General Assembly, “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”
2. “The Concept of Human Poverty” and “The Birth of the Human Development Index” from Sakiko Fukuda-Parr and A. K. Shiva Kumar (ed.), *Readings in Human Development* (2004)
3. “The Human Development Index” and “Income Poverty” from Gerald M. Meir and James E. Rauch (ed.), *Leading Issues in Economic Development* (2009)
4. “Introduction” and “Economic Development and Social Opportunity” from Amartya Sen and Jean Dreze, *India: Economic Development and Social Opportunity* (1995)
5. “A New India?” and “Integrating Growth and Development” from Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen, *An Uncertain Glory: India and its Contradictions* (2013)

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Reading packet III (optional)

1. Diener, Lucas, and Oishi, "Subjective Well-Being: the Science of Happiness and Life Satisfaction," from *The Oxford Handbook of Positive Psychology*
2. Daniel Kahneman, "Experienced Utility and Objective Happiness: A Moment-Based Approach," from *Choices, Values, Frames*
3. Anna Alexandrova, "Subjective Well-Being and Kahneman's 'Objective Happiness'," *Journal of Happiness Studies* (2005)
4. Dean Spears, "Caste and Life Satisfaction in Rural North India," *Economic and Political Weekly* (2016)
5. Robert Biswas-Diener and Ed Diener, "Making the Best of a Bad Situation: Satisfaction in the Slums of Calcutta," *Social Indicators Research* (2001)

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Course packet IV

1. Nigel Warburton, “The Harm Principle”
2. Jonathan Wolff, excerpt from “The Place of Liberty”
3. Jon Kleinig, excerpt from “Crime and the Concept of Harm” (optional)
4. Keith Culver, “Law and the Limits to Individual Liberty: Introduction”
5. Gerald Dworkin, excerpts from “Paternalism”
6. Richard H. Thaler and Cass R. Sunstein, “Libertarian Paternalism”
7. Patrick Devlin, excerpts from “Morals and the Criminal Law”
8. H. L. A. Hart, excerpts from *Law, Liberty and Morality*

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Course packet V

1. *Common Cause (A Regd. Society) vs. Union of India and Another* (excerpts)
2. Dan Brock, "Voluntary Active Euthanasia"
3. David Velleman, "Against the Right to Die"
4. Barry Schwartz, "The Tyranny of Choice"

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Course packet VI

1. Constitutional and legal provisions on freedom of speech
2. Abhinav Chandrachud, excerpt from *The Republic of Rhetoric*
3. Prasun Sonwalkar, excerpt from “Indian Journalism in the Colonial Crucible”
4. Raja Rammohun Roy, statement on the closing of the *Mirat-ul-Akhbar*
5. Young India issue on Gandhi’s sedition trial
6. Gautam Bhatia, excerpt from *Offend, Shock and Disturb*
7. Justice Maurice Gwyer, excerpt from *Niharendu Dutt Majumdar v. The King-Emperor*
8. Soli Sorabjee, excerpt from *The emergency, censorship, and the press in India, 1975-77*
9. Siddharth Narrain, “Disaffection’ and the Law: The Chilling Effect of Sedition Laws in India”
10. Anushka Singh, excerpt from *Sedition in Liberal Democracies*

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Reading packet VII

1. Eric Barendt, "Why Protect Free Speech?"

The Argument from Truth

2. Nigel Warburton, "Freedom of Speech" from *Freedom – an Introduction with Readings*

Press Freedom

3. D. R. Mankekar, "Prologue," from *The Press Under Pressure* (optional)
4. Amartya Sen, "What's the Point of Press Freedom?"
5. N. Ram, "An Independent Press and Anti-hunger Strategies: The Indian Experience"

The Argument from Democracy

6. Alexander Meiklejohn, excerpts from *Free Speech and its Relation to Self-Government*