

**JUSTICE AND EQUALITY
HISTORY 102**

MW, 10:25-11:40
Fall Semester 2014
Meliora Hall 209

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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday 2-3pm;
Thursday, 1-2pm; and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What is the definition of justice? Is it possible for a country to achieve true equality among its citizens? What steps must we take to become more just and more egalitarian?

These questions have been posed in virtually all cultures and in virtually all historical periods by some of the world's most powerful minds. "Justice and Equality" will be an interdisciplinary exploration of different conceptions of justice and equality, with special attention to their relevance to our contemporary world. Beginning with Plato's Republic, students and faculty will address works by Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Franz Fanon, Chinua Achebe, Martin Luther King, and many others. This course is taught by facug6(TJ T* [(di)-2(s)-1(c)4(us)-1(s)-1(a)4(nd de)4(ba)4(t)-2(e)4

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What does effective class participation look like? In terms of the class participation grade, the following rubric roughly outlines my expectations:

- A: regular class attendance, always fully prepared (= having completed *and* thought about the readings), regularly contributes positive, thoughtful comments
- B: regular class attendance, usually prepared, makes a sincere effort to contribute often
- C/D: several absences, inconsistent preparation, occasional contributions to discussion
- F: many absences, usually unprepared, vague or rare contributions

GRADING

Participation and IQ responses:	35%
Short papers	40% (20% each)
Final paper:	25%

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND READINGS

W Sept 3: Introductions: to the course, to each other.

M Sep 8: Case Study: Rwanda

Film:

- x *In the Tall Grass* (in LeChase 163 at regular class time)

W Sep 10: Case Study: Rwanda

Readings:

- x Jean Hatzfeld, *Life Laid Bare: The Survivors in Rwanda Speak*, 3-29 (on BlackBoard)
- x Jean Hatzfeld, *Machete Season: The Killers in Rwanda Speak*, 10-16, 71-87, 157-164, 202-207 (on BlackBoard)

M Sep 15: The Biblical Tradition

Readings:

- x Book of Job (available on BlackBoard, online, or print. Any version is acceptable.)

W Sep 17: Plenary 1: Justice and Equality in Greek Philosophy (Guest Speaker, Randall Curren, Department of Philosophy)

M Sep 22: Plato

Readings:

- x *Republic*, Book I, all; Book II to 377d; Book III, 412b to end

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Readings:

- x *ic*

