

SPRING 2023

Political Philosophy Seminar: Democracy

Instructor: Jeff Carroll

Email: [jcarro@bgsu.edu](mailto:jcarro@bgsu.edu)

Office: Shatzel 308

**Assessment:**

Weekly Discussion Leader: 15%

Paper Presentation: 15%

Participation: 20%

Paper: 50%

**Texts:**

Jason Brennan, *Against Democracy*

Julia Maskivker, *The Duty to Vote*

**Course Schedule (readings are to be done in preparation for the day noted):**

Jan 11: Introduction

Jan 18: Jason Brennan, *Against Democracy*, Ch.1-3

Jan 25: Jason Brennan, *Against Democracy*, Ch.4-6

Feb 01: Jason Brennan, *Against Democracy*, Ch.7-9

Feb 08: David Estlund, "Why Not Epistocracy?"; Sean Ingham and David Wiens, "Demographic Objections to Epistocracy: A Generalization"

Feb 15: Brian Kogelmann, "Find the Epistocrats" and Kogelmann and Carroll, "There is No Right to a Competent Electorate"

Feb 22: **NO CLASS – CENTRAL APA**

Feb 29: Helene Landemore, "The Argument for Democracy"; Melissa Schwartzberg, "Epistemic Democracy and Its Challenges"; Dimitri Landa and Ryan Pevnick, "Representative Democracy as Defensible Epistocracy"

Mar 07: **NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK**

Mar 14: Adam Gibbons, "Political Disagreement and Minimal Epistocracy"; Thomas Mulligan, "Plural Voting for the Twenty-First Century"

Mar 21: Loren Lomasky & Geoffrey Brennan, "Large numbers, small costs" and "Is There a Duty to Vote?"

Mar 28: Julia Maskivker, *The Duty to Vote*, Ch. 1-2

Apr 04: Julia Maskivker, *The Duty to Vote*, Ch. 3-4

Apr 11: Julia Maskivker, *The Duty to Vote*, Ch. 5-6; Daniel Wodak, "One Person, One Vote"

Apr 18: Paper Presentations