

Philosophy of Social Science – PHI 3420

Life on the Open Market

<u>Professor:</u>	Jon Rick Philosophy Department jrick@ufl.edu <u>Office:</u> FLO 302 / Griffin-Floyd Hall, Room 302
<u>Professor's Office Hours:</u>	Wednesday: 9:30am-11:30am or By Appointment (All <i>via</i> Zoom)
<u>Course Location/Times:</u>	Tuesday: Periods 5-6 (11:45am-1:40pm) via Zoom & MAT 0118 Thursday: Period 6 (12:50pm-1:40pm) via Zoom & MAT 0118
<u>Course Website:</u>	https://elearning.ufl.edu (Canvas)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Ours is an age in which, for the right price, almost anything can be bought and sold. It is an age where the mechanism of the Market reigns supreme in organizing the production and distribution of nearly everything we might value (and, indeed, also much of what we don't). Ours is not merely a market economy but a *market society*: The principles of market exchange increasingly govern more and more of our social life, well beyond even the buying and selling of material goods. Living in a market society, like any society, has its benefits and burdens. The aim of this course is to interrogate the value of living life on the open market. These will be our governing, guiding questions: What exactly is a market, and what are the moral underpinnings, moral successes, and moral limitations of markets? While markets are extremely effective at telling us how much things *cost*, do they help or hinder us in determining how much things are *worth*? In responding to these guiding questions, we will examine various topics in Social Philosophy – and the Social Sciences, more broadly – which reside at the intersection of Politics, Ethics, and Economics. Topics include the division of and marketization of labor; the exploitation of labor; the moral psychology of economic motivation; and the infiltration of markets into areas of our life, which we might have presumed were not for sale. Our readings will include both historical and contemporary sources.

REQUIRED READINGS:

All required readings for this course will be made available in a folder named 'Readings' (under 'Files') on our course's Canvas page.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Identify, describe and explain the major arguments and options a core area of the philosophy of social science.
 - Discern the structure of arguments, to represent them fairly and clearly and to evaluate them for cogency.
 - Formulate original arguments, anticipating objections and responding in a conscientious fashion.
 - Read and discuss complex philosophical texts from contemporary & historical works.
 - Speak and write clearly and persuasively about abstract and conceptually elusive matters.
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COURSE REQUIREMENTS & ASSIGNMENTS:

1. **Discussion Board Posts:** Many of our 1-Period Thursday sessions will focus on open discussions of the week's readings. Students will be divided into three different groups – A, B, & C. Starting in Week 2, students in Group A will be required to make a discussion post about the readings assigned for that week (T 1/19, R 1/21) by 5pm on Wednesday, January 20th. In Week 3, members of group B will be required to make a discussion post about the readings assigned for that week (T 1/26, R 1/28) by 5pm on Wednesday, January 27th. In Week 4, members of group C will be required to make a discussion post about the readings assigned for that week (T 2/2, R 2/4) by 5pm on Wednesday, February 3rd. This cycle will then repeat two more times over the course of the term (*see the Course Schedule below*). Each group (and thus each student) will be required to make 3 discussion posts over the course of the term. A detailed set of instructions and rubric explaining the requirements and expectations for these discussion posts will be made available before the second week of class. **Discussion Board Posts are worth 10% of the final grade.**
2. **Discussion Board Replies:** For every Thursday in which there is a set of discussion posts made, every student, irrespective of their group, will be required to make a short reply to one of their fellow student's discussion post for that week. To be clear, every student will be required to respond to a discussion post – both those who have made a post and those who have not posted that week. These will be due by 9am on the Thursday of the discussion section. Thus, each student will be required to make 9 reply posts over the course of the term. A detailed set of instructions and rubric explaining the requirements and expectations for these discussion post replies will be made available before the second week of class. **Discussion Board Reply Posts are worth 5% of the final grade.**
3. **Verbal Participation:** You will be expected to have read and to be prepared to discuss the texts assigned for each of the Tuesday/Thursday lecture meetings. During the weeks in which you are required to make a discussion post, you should be prepared to participate by discussing your post during that Thursday's Class Discussion meeting. This will be the primary way in which participation is assessed. However, your participation grade can be augmented by asking questions during lecture, during discussion sessions, and during office hours. **Verbal Participation is worth 5% of the final grade.**

4. **Paper Assignments:** You will be required to write three papers for this course. Detailed instructions and prompts will be distributed two weeks prior to the due date of the paper assignment.
 - (i) **Paper #1:** Your first paper will be a short writing assignment. Prompts will be distributed via Canvas. Due Date: 5:00pm on Saturday, Feb. 13th via Canvas/Turnitin. **'Paper #1' is worth 20% of your final grade.**
 - (ii) **Paper #2:** Your second writing assignment will be a slightly longer (but still not very long) writing assignment. Prompts will be distributed via Canvas. Due Date: 5:00pm on Sunday, Mar. 14th via Canvas/Turnitin. **'Paper #2' is worth 25% of your final grade.**
 - (iii) **Paper #3:** Your third writing assignment will be your longest and final paper (but still not too terribly long). Prompts will be distributed via Canvas. Due Date: Via 5:00pm on Friday, Apr. 23rd via Canvas/Turnitin. **'Paper #3' is worth 35% of your final grade.**

ADDITIONAL COURSE EXPECTATIONS

1. **Source Materials:** Any source materials appealed to in your papers that do not come from assigned course texts, *must* be cleared with me at least 1 week prior to the due date of the assignment. If you do not clear additional sources with me 1 week prior to turning in your paper, you will be penalized (10% for each source not-cleared, *only if* the source is cited). None of the assignments for this class will require resources beyond the required readings.
2. **Text and Note Taking:** In each class meeting, we will be taking an in-depth look at the assigned readings for that session. You are expected to have a copy of the text with you, and you will benefit from being able to mark the passages that are focused on in class. You are also expected to bring a copy of the text as well as paper and something to write with to each class meeting.
3. **Course Slides:** There will be slides for *only some* class meetings, and these will be posted on the course's Canvas site after each class. **Please Note:** while these slides will provide you with *some* helpful material when drafting your papers or preparing for your debates, they *will not* cover everything that is discussed in our class meetings. In order to have the fullest understanding of the material, you will need to be present for each class and take notes on the class discussion.
4. **Discussion:** This course will be discussion-based, rather than a pure lecture. Please come to class ready to discuss the texts assigned for the day. Although we'll have our formal debates in our last three sessions, I hope we'll have many more informal ones along the way. I'm very interested in hearing what all of you have to say!

SUMMARY OF GRADED REQUIREMENTS

10%	Discussion Board Posts
5%	Discussion Board Replies
5%	Verbal Participation
20%	First Paper
25%	Second Paper
35%	Third Paper

Grading Scale		
Letter	4 pt. scale	100 pt. scale
A	4.0 (3.835-4.0)	94-100
A-	3.67 (3.495-3.834)	90-93
B+	3.33 (3.165-3.494)	87-89
B	3.0 (2.835-3.164)	84-86
B-	2.67 (2.495-2.834)	80-83
C+	2.33 (2.165-2.494)	77-79
C	2.0 (1.835-2.164)	74-76
C-	1.67 (1.495-1.834)	70-73
D+	1.33 (1.165-1.494)	67-69
D	1.0 (0.835-1.164)	64-66
D-	0.67 (0.495-0.834)	60-63
E	0.0 (0.0-0.494)	0-59

PAPER SUBMISSION, LATE PAPER SUBMISSION, & DEBATE POLICIES

In general, requirements for section attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work are consistent with university policies specified at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

More specifically, the following policies will be adhered to:

1. All in-section assignments will need to be completed during the section meeting in which they are assigned. If you have extenuating circumstances (consistent with the University guidelines detailed in the link above and are able to present a written excuse), accommodations may be made (but there are no guarantees here). You will need to contact the instructor within 48 hours of the section meeting that you will miss in order to determine whether accommodations can be made.
2. All essays assignments will be submitted online via an Assignment/Turnitin.com link on the course's Canvas page. Essays must be submitted as either .doc or .docx files. Failure to submit in these formats will result in penalties and will require resubmission in the proper format.
3. Late submission of papers will be penalized 3% for each day that the assignment is late. For instance, if a paper is due on Friday at 5:00pm, it will be counted as 1 day late if submitted between 5:01pm Friday and 5:00pm Saturday (submissions between 5:01pm Saturday and 5:00pm Sunday will count as 2 days late, and so on). Late submissions will be made via Canvas/Turnitin.

COURSE WEBSITE

This course is supplemented by online content in the e-Learning environment known as "Canvas." To login to the e-Learning site for this course, go to <https://elearning.ufl.edu/>, click the **e-Learning in Canvas** button, and on the next page enter your Gatorlink username and password. You can then access the course e-Learning environment by selecting PHI 3930 from the **Courses** pull-down menu at the top of the page. **If you encounter any difficulties logging in or accessing any of the course content, contact the UF Computing Help Desk at (352) 392-4537.**

CLASS CONDUCT & ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

In accordance with UF-CLAS regulations, 51% of class meetings must be taught in-person. To uphold this policy, all of our Tuesday classes will be held in MAT 0014 & Zoom, but all of our Thursday classes will be held over Zoom only, with the exception of classes on 4/8 & 4/15. I intend to remain flexible about this arrangement in accord with the needs and wants of students enrolled in the in-person section, while adhering to CLAS requirements and guidelines.

ZOOM VIDEO & RECORDING PROTOCOLS

- You are not required to turn on your video during class lectures, but I encourage you to do so when asking questions or offering comments. It's nice to see you!
- On Thursday classes in which you are expected to talk about your discussion posts, you will be expected to have your video feed on, barring excusing conditions. If you have any concerns at all about having your video feed on, please contact me. I will be extremely sensitive to your concerns.
- While all course content materials (such as slides) will be posted, any video or audio recordings of the class sessions will not be posted.
- Students are not permitted to make audio or visual recordings of class lectures or discussion sections without the permission of the Professor and Teaching Assistant.
- Some class lectures and discussion sections may be recorded, and if they are, the following University of Florida guidelines apply:

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be

sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

HONOR CODE & PLAGIARISM POLICY

Most instances of academic dishonesty can be avoided by thoroughly citing the resources you have used to help you understand the topic on which you're writing. **If you have read something that helped you understand the material, cite it!** Failure to cite sources is the most common (and easily avoidable) academic offence. Detailed citation instructions will be provided with your paper assignment prompts.

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 (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. 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.

Plagiarism on any assignment will automatically result in a grade of “E” for the course. Plagiarism is defined in the University of Florida's Student Honor Code as follows:

“A student shall not represent as the student’s own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to): a. Quoting oral or written materials, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution. b. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student.”

Students found guilty of academic misconduct will be prosecuted in accordance with the procedures specified in the UF honesty policy.

IMPORTANT CAMPUS & ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Health and Wellness U Matter, We Care

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392- 1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575

University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies

E-learning Technical Support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Library Support <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>

Writing Studio 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

EMAIL POLICY

(1) If you need some practical information about the course you should **look at most recently updated syllabus or on the website**. Emails requesting information which is available on the most recently updated syllabus or on the website will not be answered.

(2) If you want to discuss a substantive philosophical question you should bring it up in class or come to office hours. I will not be able to respond to in-depth, substantive questions about the readings or assignments over email. However, I am *more* than happy to discuss substantive questions of these sorts in office hours. So, please come and see me! I will be happy to address short, logistical, non-substantive questions over email.

If, after reading (1) & (2) you still think you should email me, you are welcome to do so at the 'ufl' address listed at the top of this syllabus. Please use your 'ufl' address.

Emails received after 5pm may not be responded to until after 9am the following day.

COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or

three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

HOW TO DO WELL IN THIS COURSE!

1. **Be sure to read the assigned material before class.** This will help to ensure that our class time is quality time.
2. **After class, re-read the material for the session:** Pay special attention to the questions that you had before. Hopefully the material will make much more sense to you now!
3. **Bring specific questions with you to class meetings.** If there are aspects of the readings that you don't fully grasp, please bring them up in class. Philosophy can be tough! If you have a question, it's probably a good one – and it's probably one that others have as well! Don't hesitate to ask questions.
4. **See me in office hours:** It's natural to have lurking and new questions after our class discussions. That's what office hours are for! Also, I can really help you in office hours when it comes to formulating drafts and outlines of your papers. Come and see me. Don't be shy! I will help!!
5. **Manage your time well.** Many students make the mistake of waiting until a few days before papers are due to start writing. This is not a helpful way to manage your time and efforts. Getting started early on your papers by formulating outlines and drafts will *really, really* help to improve your final product. Similar considerations apply to our quizzes – make sure to stay on top of the readings. The **same number of hours** devoted to the material BEFORE class can lead to a much more efficient use of your time, better understanding, and higher grades.

HELPFUL RESOURCES FOR READING & WRITING PHILOSOPHY

Here are links to Jim Pryor's guides to philosophical terms and methods, reading philosophy, and writing a philosophical paper. These are *very* helpful, short additional resources:

<http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/vocab/index.html>

<http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/guidelines/reading.html>

<http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/guidelines/writing.html>

CLASS & READING SCHEDULE (Including Assignment Due Dates):

- *This Schedule is Tentative & Subject to Revision – please read all announcements*

INTRODUCTORY WEEK

Tuesday 1/12 – Course Overview

1. Review of Course Syllabus & Course Objectives

Thursday 1/14 – A Crash Course on How Markets Work & How Markets Fail

1. **Robert Heilbroner & Lester Thurow** – “How Markets Work” & “How Markets Fail,”
from *Economics Explained*

UNIT 1: ADAM SMITH’S (TEMPERED) CASE FOR MARKETS & CAPITAL

Tuesday 1/19 – Smith on the Division of Labor

1. **Adam Smith** – *Wealth of Nations*, Book I: Chps. 1-3 (entire), 4 (para. 1-4, 13-18),
5 (para. 1-9), 6 (para. 1-17), 7 (para. 1-12), 8 (para. 1-27, 35-40)

Thursday 1/21 – Smith on the Labor Theory of Value & Comparative Political Economy

1. **Adam Smith** – 1/19 Readings continued
Discussion Postings Group A1

Tuesday 1/26 – Smith on Labor, Capital, & *Laissez-Faire* Global Markets

1. **Adam Smith** – *Wealth of Nations* Book II: Intro & Chps. 1 & 3
2. **Adam Smith** – *Wealth of Nations*, Book IV: Intro & Chp. 2

Thursday 1/28 – Smith on Labor, Capital, & *Laissez-Faire* Global Markets

1. **Adam Smith** – 1/26 Readings continued
2. **Discussion Postings Group B1**

Tuesday 2/2 – Smith on Market Regulation & the Limits of *Laissez-Faire*

1. **Adam Smith** – *Wealth of Nations*, Book V: Chp. 1, Part 3, Art. 2 (para. 1-9, 45-61)
2. **Adam Smith** – *Wealth of Nations*, Book II, Chp. 2 (para. 26-31, 48, 53, 57, 59, 65, 73-75, 86,
88-94, 106)

Thursday 2/4 – Smith on Market Regulation & the Limits of *Laissez-Faire*

1. **Adam Smith** – 2/2 Readings continued
Discussion Postings Group C1

UNIT 2: KARL MARX'S CASES CRITIQUING MARKETS & CAPITAL

Tuesday 2/9 – Marx on Estranged Labor, Commodities, & Commodity Fetishism

1. Karl Marx – “Estranged Labour,” *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844*
2. Karl Marx – “Commodities,” *Capital Vol. 1* (302-308, 319-329)

Thursday 2/11 – Marx on Estranged Labor, Commodities, & Commodity Fetishism

1. Karl Marx – 2/9 Readings continued
Discussion Postings Group A2

First Paper is Due by 5:00pm on Saturday, 2/13 via Canvas/Turnitin

Tuesday 2/16 – Marx on Exploitation & the Creation of Surplus Value

1. Karl Marx – *Wage Labour and Capital* (203-217)
2. Karl Marx – “The Production of Absolute Surplus-Value,” *Capital Vol. 1* (344-361)

Thursday 2/18 – Marx on Exploitation & the Creation of Surplus Value

1. Karl Marx – 2/16 Readings continued
Discussion Postings Group B2

Tuesday 2/23 – Marx on the Inefficiency and Self-Undermining character of Capitalism

1. Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels – *The Manifesto of the Communist Party*, Intro. & Section I (473-483)

Thursday 2/25 - Marx on the Inefficiency and Self-Undermining character of Capitalism

1. Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels – *The Manifesto of the Communist Party*, Section II (484-491)
Discussion Postings Group C2

RECHARGE & WRITING WEEK!

NO CLASS ON TUESDAY 3/2 & THURSDAY 3/4

UNIT 3: EXPLORING THE MORAL LIMITS OF MARKETS & MARKET SOCIETY – THEORY

Tuesday 3/9 – Markets & Crowding Out Morality

1. Michael Sandel – “Markets & Morals,” from *What Money Can't Buy*
2. Michael Sandel – “How Markets Crowd Out Morals” from *What Money Can't Buy*

Thursday 3/11 – Markets & Crowding Out Morality

1. **Michael Sandel** – Additional Excerpts from *What Money Can't Buy*
Discussion Postings Group A3

Second Paper is Due by 5:00pm on Sunday, 3/14 via Canvas/Turnitin

Tuesday 3/16 – Noxious Markets & Moral Limits

1. **Elizabeth Anderson** – “The Ethical Limitations of the Market”
2. **Debra Satz** – “Noxious Markets” from *Why Some Things Should Not Be For Sale*

Thursday 3/18 – Noxious Markets & Moral Limits

1. **Elizabeth Anderson & Debra Satz** – 3/16 Readings continued
Discussion Postings Group B3

Tuesday 3/23 – Markets without Moral Limits

1. **Jason Brennan & Peter Jaworski** – *Markets without Limits* (selections)

Thursday 3/25 – Markets without Moral Limits

1. **Jason Brennan & Peter Jaworski** – 3/23 Readings continued
Discussion Postings Group C3

UNIT 3: EXPLORING THE MORAL LIMITS OF MARKET SOCIETY – PRACTICE

Tuesday 3/30 – Reproductive Labor Markets – Commercial Surrogacy

1. **Alan Wertheimer** – “Commercial Surrogacy” from *Exploitation*
2. **Elizabeth Anderson** – “Is Women’s Labor a Commodity?”

Thursday 4/1 – Reproductive Labor Markets – Commercial Surrogacy

1. **Debra Satz** – “Markets in Women’s Reproductive Labor”

Tuesday 4/6 – Organ Markets

1. **Janet Radcliffe Richards** – “Nephrarious Goings On: Kidney Sales and Moral Arguments”

Thursday 4/8 – Organ Markets

1. **Debra Satz** – “Ethical Issues in the Supply and Demand of Human Kidneys,” from *Why Some Things Should Not Be For Sale*

Tuesday 4/13 – The Exploitation of Student Athletes

1. Alan Wertheimer – “The Exploitation of Student Athletes” from *Exploitation*

Thursday 4/15 – TBD

1. *Readings TBD*

Tuesday 4/20 – TBD

1. *Readings TBD*

Third Paper is Due by 5:00pm on Friday, 4/23 via Canvas/Turnitin