

# Syllabus: What Would It Mean to Be a Just University?

Student-initiated seminar: POL ST24/AMS ST24 Fall Term, 2006

DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF CHARLES BRAY, P'55

*“An educational institution teaches far, far more, and more profoundly, by how it acts than by anything anyone within it ever says.”* (A. Bartlett Giamatti, President, Yale University)

Prof. Stanley Katz  
428 Robertson Hall  
Ph: 258-5637  
[snkatz@princeton.edu](mailto:snkatz@princeton.edu)

This is a seminar initiated by the undergraduate Task Force on Civic Values, coordinated by Drew Frederick, '07. The syllabus has been prepared by Drew and Stan Katz, with input from a number of seminar participants and colleagues. We have deliberately left the final weeks open so that the seminar can make decisions on topics and materials after our initial discussions.

Our intention is to have a very open discussion of a wide variety of issues relating to justice within the university and between the university and the larger society. The readings are intended to provide a point of reference for defining justice, and for understanding the history and structure of the modern research university – in addition to drawing attention to a few of the obvious justice concerns for universities and those who study in and work at universities.

We have asked Micawbers Bookstore on Nassau St. to order the following books, which are required for purchase for the seminar:

Julie A. Rueben, *THE MAKING OF THE MODERN UNIVERSITY* (University of Chicago Press, 1996), paperback, ISBN 0-226-71020-3

Clark Kerr, *THE USES OF THE UNIVERSITY*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. (Harvard University Press, 2001), paperback, ISBN 0-674-00532-5

Derek Bok, *OUR UNDERACHIEVING COLLEGES: A CANDID LOOK AT HOW MUCH STUDENTS LEARN AND WHY THEY SHOULD BE LEARNING MORE* (Princeton University Press, 2006), ISBN 0-691-12596-1

Drew and I have also put together a reader that will be available at Pequod after Labor Day. This is the table of contents:

1. Walzer, Michael, *Spheres of Justice*, Preface, chp. 1, “Complex Equality,” pp. xi-30, and chp. 2 “Membership,” pp. 31-63
2. Katz, Stanley N., “What Would It Mean to Be a Just University?”
3. Shapiro, Harold T., *A Larger Sense of Purpose: Higher Education and Society*, chp. 1 “The University and Society” pp. 1-39
4. Shapiro, Harold T., Chp.3 “Liberal Education, Liberal Democracy, and

- the Soul of the University,” pp.88-118
5. Walzer, Michael, Spheres of Justice, chp. 5 “Office,” pp. 129-164
  6. Katz, Stanley N, “The Pathbreaking, Fractionalized, Uncertain World of Knowledge”
  7. Keohane, Nannerl, Higher Ground: Ethics and Leadership in the Modern University “*Pro Bono Publico: Institutional Leadership and the Public Good*,” pp. 84-97
  8. Keohane, Nannerl, Higher Ground, “Moral Education in the Modern University,” pp. 98-111
  9. AAUP, “General Declaration of Principles” (Statement on Academic Freedom), 1915
  10. Richard Hofstadter, “The 214<sup>th</sup> Columbia University Commencement Address,” 4 June 1968
  11. Menand, Louis, “The Limits of Academic Freedom,” in Louis Menand, ed., *The Future of Academic Freedom*, pp. 3-20.
  12. Martin Finkelstein, “Understanding the American Academic Profession,” in Altbach, Philip, Gumport, Patricia, and D. Bruce Johnstone, eds., American Higher Education in the Twenty-First Century, pp.323-351

Drew and I have discussed the standards for evaluation, and we would like to propose the following formula: 25% for seminar participation; 25% for co-directing a seminar on a specific university justice issue (weeks 9-12); 50% for a seminar paper (maximum length, 15 pages). We propose that each student do one or two short issue papers in addition to the term paper. But we will raise this at the first session, and will ask for the input of the group before making a final decision.

This is the class schedule and required reading list. All of the readings other than those in the books required for purchase are in the required Pequod packet:

### **September 19 – Introduction to the Course: An Initial Look at the University and Justice**

Walzer, Michael. “Membership,” in Spheres of Justice: A Defense of Pluralism and Equality. New York: Basic Books, 1983. Preface, chp. 1, “Complex Equality,” pp. xi-30, chp. 2 “Membership,” pp. 31-63.

### **September 26 – Part I: The Making of the Modern University**

Reuben, Julie A. The Making of the Modern University. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996. (Introduction and Chapters 1-4; pp. 1-133).

### **October 3 – Part II: The Making of the Modern University**

Reuben, Julie A. The Making of the Modern University. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996. (Chapters 5-8 and Conclusion; pp. 133-269).

### **October 10 – Justice Within the Sphere of the University**

Guest: Rob Hollister, Tufts University

Katz, Stanley N. "What Would It Mean to Be a Just University?" Speech at the "Higher Education in and for a Just Society" (125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Texas A&M University). 3 Oct. 2001.

Shapiro, Harold T. A Larger Sense of Purpose: Higher Education and Society. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005. (Chapter 1 "The University and Society" pp. 1-39 and Chapter 3 "Liberal Education, Liberal Democracy, and the Soul of the University" pp. 88-119).

Walzer, Michael. Spheres of Justice: A Defense of Pluralism and Equality. New York: Basic Books, 1983, chp. 5 "Office," pp.129-164.

### **October 17 – The Recent History of the Modern University \*\*\*paper topic due\*\*\***

Kerr, Clark. The Uses of the University 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001. (Preface and Chapters 1-9; pp. vii-229)

### **October 24 – The Modern University of Today**

Katz, Stanley N. "The Pathbreaking, Fractionalized, Uncertain World of Knowledge." Chronicle of Higher Education 20 Sept. 2002.

Nannerl Keohane, "Pro Bono Publico: Institutional Leadership and the Public Good," "Moral Education in the Modern University," in Higher Ground: Ethics and Leadership in the Modern University. Durham. Duke University Press, 2006, pp. 84-97, 98-111.

### **October 31 – Fall Break**

### **November 7 – Are Universities just in their provision of undergraduate education?**

Bok, Derek. Our Underachieving Colleges: A Candid Look at How Much Students Learn and Why They Should Be Learning More. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006.

### **November 14 – Politics and the University**

Guest: Ira Harkavy, University of Pennsylvania

(\*\*\*rough draft of final paper due\*\*\*)

AAUP, "General Declaration of Principles" (Statement on Academic Freedom), 1915  
Richard Hofstadter, "The 214<sup>th</sup> Columbia University Commencement Address," 4 June 1968

Louis Menand, "The Limits of Academic Freedom," in Louis Menand, ed., *The Future of Academic Freedom* (Chicago, 1996), pp. 3-20.

Martin Finkelstein, "Understanding the American Academic Profession," in Altbach, Philip, Gumport, Patricia, and D. Bruce Johnstone, eds., In Defense of American Higher Education. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001, pp.323-351

**November 21 – Student Presentations – Examining Specific Justice Issues within the University**

**November 28 – Student Presentations – Examining Specific Justice Issues within the University**

**December 5 – Student Presentations – Examining Specific Justice Issues within the University**

**December 12 – Student Presentations – Examining Specific Justice Issues within the University**