

Topics in Philosophy II A | PIU11013

Year	Junior Freshman
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	22 (18 hours of lectures + 4 hours of tutorials)
Pre-requisite	None
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Professor Adina Preda
Contact Email	Predaa@tcd.ie

Module outline:

Component one: Freedom

The values of freedom and equality feature prominently in much political discourse, as well as most political theories. It is often thought that they can come into conflict because pursuing egalitarian policies in society may undermine individual freedom. This component will first clarify the first of these two contested concepts. We will discuss negative and positive freedom, republican freedom, poverty and freedom, freedom of speech and coercion.

Component two: Equality

The second component will look at different forms of equality, such as basic equality, formal equality and non-discrimination, equality of opportunity and meritocracy, and equality of social status.

Assessment:

Coursework: one essay (chosen from either Component One or Two): 50%

Examination: one exam question (chosen from the Component for which an essay was not

submitted): 50%

Recommended Reading List:

An extensive and detailed reading list will be made available at the start of the module. But among the essential readings will be:

Adam Swift – *Political Philosophy: A Beginner's Guide for Students and Politicians,* Polity Press, 2001

Katrin Flikschuh – Freedom: Contemporary Liberal Perspectives, Wiley, 2013

Stuart White - Equality, Polity, 2006