Exploring Theories of Justice: Foundations and Applications

19 – 23 April 2027
Berlin (Germany)

UK Traininig
PARTNER



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Ref: 322231_191581 **Date:** 19 – 23 April 2027 **Location:** Berlin (Germany) **Fees:** 5200 GBP

Why This Course

Questions of justice lie at the heart of law, politics, public policy, and social life. How should rights be protected, resources distributed, and responsibilities shared? Different theories of justice offer different answers, and those answers continue to shape modern debates on equality, freedom, punishment, rights, and the role of the state. Understanding these theories is essential for anyone seeking to think more clearly about contemporary moral and political challenges.

This intensive course explores fundamental theories of justice and their applications in modern society. Participants will examine classical and contemporary conceptions of justice, including utilitarian, liberal, libertarian, and egalitarian perspectives. The course will analyze how these theories inform current debates on social, political, and legal issues.

What You'll Learn and Practice

By joining this program, you will:

- Understand and compare major theories of justice in Western political philosophy.
- Analyze the implications of different justice concepts for social and legal systems.
- Apply theoretical frameworks to contemporary moral and political dilemmas.
- Develop critical thinking skills for evaluating arguments about justice and equality.
- Gain insight into the philosophical underpinnings of current policy debates.

The Program Flow

Day 1: Foundations of Justice Theory

- Introduction to the concept of justice.
- Classical theories: Plato and Aristotle.
- Social contract theory: Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau.
- Utilitarianism: Bentham and Mill.

Day 2: Liberal and Libertarian Perspectives

- Rawls' theory of justice as fairness.
- Nozick's libertarian theory.
- Debates on individual rights and social responsibility.
- Market-based approaches to justice.



Day 3: Egalitarian and Marxist Approaches

- Egalitarian liberalism.
- Marxist critique of capitalism.
- Theories of distributive justice.
- Equality of opportunity vs. equality of outcome.

Day 4: Contemporary Issues in Justice

- Affirmative action and positive discrimination.
- Global justice and international relations.
- Environmental justice.
- Intergenerational justice.

Day 5: Applied Justice in Modern Contexts

- Criminal justice reform.
- Economic inequality and social mobility.
- Gender, sexuality, and reproductive rights.
- Race and reparations.

Individual Impact

- Strengthen your ability to analyze and evaluate complex moral and political arguments.
- Enhance your understanding of the philosophical foundations behind current policy debates.
- Build a stronger framework for addressing ethical dilemmas in professional and personal contexts.
- Develop critical thinking skills that can be applied across a wide range of disciplines and discussions.

Work Impact

- Improve the quality of analysis in discussions involving law, policy, ethics, and social issues.
- Strengthen the ability to assess competing arguments about rights, equality, and justice.
- Support more thoughtful decision-making in contexts shaped by moral and political considerations.
- Enhance engagement with contemporary debates through stronger conceptual and analytical clarity.

Training Methodology

This program integrates philosophical inquiry, critical analysis, and practical discussion to ensure intellectual depth and real-world relevance. Learning methods include:

- Guided exploration of classical and contemporary theories of justice.
- Case-based discussions on modern legal, political, and social issues.
- Interactive sessions comparing competing philosophical arguments.
- Group discussions on policy debates and moral dilemmas.
- Analytical frameworks for applying justice theories to real-world contexts.



Beyond the Course

Upon completion, participants will be better equipped to understand and evaluate competing theories of justice with greater clarity, depth, and confidence. They will return ready to:

- Analyze moral and political debates using structured philosophical frameworks.
- Compare theories of justice and assess their practical implications.
- Apply critical thinking to contemporary issues involving rights, equality, and public policy.
- Engage more effectively in discussions on law, ethics, and social justice.

