

**Philosophy 8      Race, Justice and Equality      Thursdays at 3:40 PM**  
**Lewis R. Gordon**

What are the challenges raised by race for the development of a theory of social justice and equality? This course will explore this question through a critical examination of select writings in political philosophy and the study of race and racism.

**Texts:**

Bernard Boxill, *Blacks and Social Justice*. Rowman & Littlefield. • ISBN-10: 0847677109  
• ISBN-13: 978-0847677108

Jane Anna Gordon, *Why They Couldn't Wait*. Routledge. • ISBN-10: 0415929105  
• ISBN-13: 978-0415929103

Lewis Gordon, *Bad Faith and Antiracist Racism*. Humanity Books. • ISBN-10: 1573925349 • ISBN-13: 978-1573925341

Charles Mills, *The Racial Contract*. Cornell UP. • ISBN-10: 0801484634  
• ISBN-13: 978-0801484636

Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom*. Anchor. • ISBN-10: 0195655265  
• ISBN-13: 978-0385720274

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*Requirements:* Three one-page, single-spaced papers addressing a chosen reading of the week; an abstract of your final paper topic, due 4/7/10; and a final paper of 8–10 single-spaced pages. Each assignment is to be sent by email attachment to [lewgord@gmail.com](mailto:lewgord@gmail.com). The due date will be announced by the second week of class.

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<b>Dates</b>	<b>Session topics and readings</b>
1/28	Handout syllabus, outline of course, and discussion of administration of the course. Introduction: Discussions of justice, race, and political theory.
2/4	On Race and Oppression. <b>Readings</b> (handout): Lewis Gordon, "Race Theory and Political Theory" and Iris Marion Young, "Five Faces of Oppression" and Terrence Johnson's "Thinking Race from the Margins"
2/11	Reading session (no class)—read Boxill's <i>Blacks and Social Justice</i> and John Rawls, "Justice as Fairness" (handout)
2/18	<i>Monday class schedule</i>
2/25	Social justice and respect. <b>Reading:</b> Bernard Boxill, <i>Blacks and Social Justice</i>
3 / 4	Boxill (continued)
3/11	Social contract theory and race. <b>Reading:</b> Charles Mills, <i>The Racial Contract</i>
3/ 18	Mills (continued)
3/ 25	<i>Reading session</i> (no class)—Jane Anna Gordon, <i>Why They Couldn't Wait</i>
4/1	<i>Spring break</i>
4/ 8	Racism, rationality, and double standards. <b>Readings:</b> Jane Anna Gordon, <i>Why They Couldn't Wait</i> and Jerry Miller, "Moral Spectatorship" (handout)
4/ 15	The impact of bad faith. <b>Reading:</b> Lewis Gordon, <i>Bad Faith and Antiracist Racism</i>
4/22	Lewis Gordon (continued)
4/29	Amartya Sen, <i>Development as Freedom</i>
5/6	Sen (continued) and Will Kimlicka, excerpt from <i>Multicultural Citizenship</i> (handout)
5/13	Concluding discussion ( <i>The Sprague &amp; Taylor Lecture will take place on May 6 or 13, 2010. We will coordinate the class to accommodate the lecture.</i> )