Why is climate change a problem of global justice and how could the international community address this problem fairly? On this course we will look at various questions of justice that climate change raises and examine how political philosophers have attempted to answer them. Topics to be considered may include: historical responsibility for climate change, duties regarding future generations, the problem of allocating the burdens of addressing climate change, natural resource justice, the rights of indigenous peoples, moral issues concerning territorial loss or displacement, and the politics of geoengineering the planet.

Schedule and required readings

**Week 1. Introduction**

**Week 2. Future Generations**

**Week 3. Human Rights**

**Week 4. Collective Responsibility**

**Week 5. Resource Sharing**

**Week 6. Burden Sharing**

**Week 7. READING WEEK**

**Week 8. Historical Responsibility**
Week 9. Indigenous Rights

Week 10. Displacement

Week 11. Geoengineering

Week 12. Environmental Activism
Recommended and further reading
A significant literature on climate justice has developed since the early 1990s. Recommended and further topic-specific readings for the course are listed below, week-by-week.

For general further reading purposes, the following books are available through the library:


**Week 1. Introduction**

**Recommended:**


**Further reading on global justice:**

Further reading on climate justice:

- Cripps, Elizabeth. 2011. ‘Where we are now: Climate ethics and future challenges’. *Climate Law*.
- Moellendorf, Darrel. 2015. ‘Climate Change Justice’. *Philosophy Compass*.

Week 2. Future Generations

Recommended:


Further:


Week 3. Human Rights

Recommended:

Further:
- Brooks, Thom. 2012. ‘Climate Change and Negative Duties’. *Politics*.

**Week 4. Collective Responsibility**

**Recommended:**

**Further:**

**Week 5. Resource Sharing**

**Recommended:**


Further:


**Week 6. Burden Sharing**

**Recommended:**


Further:

Bell, Derek. 2011. ‘Global Climate Justice, Historic Emissions, and Excusable Ignorance’. *The Monist*.


**Week 8. Historical Responsibility**

**Recommended:**
• Butt, Daniel. 2014. ‘A Doctrine Quite New and Altogether Untenable’: Defending the Beneficiary Pays Principle*. *Journal of Applied Philosophy*

**Further:**
• Blomfield, Megan. 2015. ‘Historical Use of the Climate Sink’. *Res Publica*.
• Huseby, Robert. 2013. ‘Should the Beneficiaries Pay?’ *Politics, Philosophy & Economics*.
• Thompson, Janna. 2006. ‘Collective Responsibility for Historic Injustice’. *Midwest Studies In Philosophy*.

**Week 9. Indigenous Rights**

**Recommended:**

Further:
• Anchorage Declaration. 2009. Indigenous Peoples’ Global Summit on Climate Change.
• The Kari-Oca 2 Declaration, 2012.
• People’s Agreement of Cochabamba. 2010.

Week 10. Displacement
Recommended:
• Byravan, Sujatha & Sudhir Chella Rajan. 2010. ‘The Ethical Implications of Sea-Level Rise Due to Climate Change’. Ethics & International Affairs.
• Heyward, Clare & Jörgen Ödalen. ‘A Free Movement Passport for the Territorially Dispossessed’. In Climate Justice in a Non-Ideal World, ed. Heyward & Roser.

Further:
• Zellentin, Alexa. 2015. ‘Climate Justice, Small Island Developing States and Cultural Loss’. Climatic change.
**Week 11. Geoengineering**

**Recommended:**

**Further:**
- Buck, Holly Jean. 2012. ‘Geoengineering: Re-making Climate for Profit or Humanitarian Intervention?’ *Development & Change.*

**Week 12. Environmental Activism**

**Recommended:**
• Welchman, Jennifer. 2001. ‘Is ecosabotage civil disobedience?’. *Philosophy & Geography*.


**Further:**


• List, Peter. 1994. ‘Some Philosophical Assessments of Environmental Disobedience’. *Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplements*.


• Smith, William. 2011. ‘Civil Disobedience and the Public Sphere’. *Journal of Political Philosophy*.
