

Phil 3704 Social Philosophy

Class Number 13125Section MY12
Mon, Wed 12:25 – 2:05 PM

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Do you care about other people? Why? Wouldn't life be easier and better without them? This class assumes you need others, and that, if related to in a proper way, your life actually is better. But what is the best way to join together with other humans: as friends, lovers, families, cities, nations? Some or all of these? We shall focus on the concept of the social and its relationship to the concepts of nature, democracy and economy with respect to the concepts of the social contract, gender, dignity, capabilities, freedom, and self-determination, especially in cities. Topics include the cosmopolitan global city, climate change, race and education, gender and property, participatory budgeting, economic democracy, sustainability, friendship. Special assignment redesigning your own neighborhood.

Requirements: 4 exercises, a mix of quizzes, presentations, and/or short papers; midterm; 10 page term paper, final exam.