Political Theory II: Toleration.

This seminar will begin by closely examining John Locke's defence of the idea of toleration as it evolved in response to criticism in the last years of the 17th century. Rival interpretations of what was at stake in this debate will be evaluated. We will then move on to discuss possible meanings of "toleration" and objections to it, as well as to various later attempts to ground it in ideas such as "moral pluralism", "essential contestability", and "reasonable disagreement". In the final part of the course, the idea of toleration will be evaluated in relation to other attempts to accommodate diversity, such as multiculturalism and the politics of "recognition".