Gov 10: Foundations of Political Theory other**minds:** Text 22333 + minds

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 outline: **subjective or objective interests**

**Prologue:** **liberty, unpacked**

* + 1. Cue up the idea of humanity in *On Liberty*
		2. Democracy and Preference: Actual or Idealized?
		3. Bentham and Mill’s lives *embody* their respective theories of utility
1. **Theories of Subjective Utility**
	1. Bentham’s “greatest happiness principle”
	2. Philosophical utilitarianism: Three Parts
		1. A theory of well-being (subjective or objective)
		2. A theory of value
		3. A normative demand
	3. Bentham’s hedonic account of our interests
		1. E.g., utlitometer
		2. Three attractive features:
			1. Non-judgmental approach (equal treatment of human goods)
			2. Scientific character
			3. Clear Moral/Political Implications
2. **Theories of Objective Utility**
	1. Mill’s breakdown: departure from Bentham’s approach
	2. Mill presents alternative account of well-being:
		1. Background for the account: values self-development of the *higher-order powers*
			1. Pig satisfied, Socrates unsatisfied (and executed?)
			2. Bad argument for this account: exercise of the higher-order powers is more satisfying…
		2. Structure of Mill’s Account
			1. Negative thesis
			2. Positive thesis
			3. Comparability thesis
		3. How do we distinguish between higher/lower-order pleasures?
			1. Familiarity
			2. Susceptibility
			3. Freedom
		4. Mill’s Decision-Procedure for *competent* judges
			1. “decided preferences” for pleasure x (See Utilitarianism 2.5)
			2. Unwillingness to trade-off
		5. Is there something *democratic* about this procedure?
		6. Mill’s Proof (discuss in section)
3. **Liberty’s Service to Utility**
	* 1. Two ways liberty contributes to human happiness
		2. Two Tests of Bentham/Mill
			1. T.E.D. 1: The Experience Machine
			2. T.E.D. II: The Survival Lottery