In this course we shall examine the emergence of toleration as a political topic, in the debate between John Locke and Jonas Proast (1689-1704); consider the contemporary significance of toleration and the moral and/or epistemological premises on which it can be based; and finally consider three alternative approaches to disagreement that may replace toleration: “agonism”, the ethics of compromise, and the idea of “recognition.”

Topics and readings are listed below. Readings will be posted on OWL or made available for photocopy. The only required text is *Locke on Toleration* (Cambridge UP 2010, available in UWO bookstore and Weldon).

Evaluation: a final essay, due April 15, worth 70%: class participation, 30%. The essay (15-20 pages is expected) will critically explore one of the week’s topics, while also showing an appreciation of its place in the overall theme of the class. I am open to proposals for essay topics that will span two or more weeks’ readings.

Sept 11 – introduction to the course

Sept 18 – Locke’s toleration (1) – was it Protestant, fallibilist, or egalitarian? Let’s discuss it: *Locke on Toleration* pp 1-66.

Sept 25 – Locke’s toleration (2) – was it Protestant, fallibilist, or egalitarian? Let’s discuss it some more: *Locke on Toleration*, remainder of book


Nov 6 – Explaining conflict (1) – we are all fallible: David Christensen “Disagreement as Evidence”, *Philosophy Compass* 4/5 (2009), Thomas Kelly “The Epistemic...


