

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
The City University of New York

*Your copy*

TEACHING OBSERVATION REPORT  
Department of Social Sciences

(Conducted at least once during each academic semester for each non-tenured or non-certificated member of the teaching staff; tenured and certificated members of teaching staff may be observed once each semester. For adjunct faculty, the original written teaching observation report and the original record of discussion of observation at the post-observation conference are to be sent to the Office of Adjunct Services. They will subsequently be reviewed by the Office of Academic Affairs and placed in the staff member's personnel file in the Office of Faculty and Staff Relations. For full-time faculty, the teaching observation and record of discussion should be sent directly to the Office of Faculty and Staff Relations.)

Dr. Daniel Restrepo	Adjunct Assistant Professor	Dr. Marshall Peller	
Employee Observed	Rank of Employee	Observer	
PHIL140	H115	October 7, 2013	
F1	12:10 - 3:00 pm		
Course	Location (Room)	Time	Date

OBSERVATION REPORT:

The topic of Dr. Restrepo's lecture was paternalism. Initially, reviewing the previous lecture, Dr. Restrepo talked about Talcott's reasons for why doctors have authority over patients. They included doctors having esoteric knowledge incomprehensible to patients, patients being unable to make decisions because they regress to childlike states when they are ill and that the physician's altruism will prevent abuse. Despite this there is a need for informed consent and there are also reasons to be suspect of Talcott's nineteenth century model. Nevertheless, perhaps doctors should have authority over patients which is a form of paternalism. Paternalism, however, interferes with a person's independence. The students then suggested other paternalistic laws (seat belt laws, car seats, motorcycle helmets, drinking age laws) and this was followed by a discussion of laws that affect only the person (seat belt) versus laws that also affect other people (drinking age). The question of whether or not there should be laws that diminish someone's liberty but won't harm anyone else was raised. Dr. Restrepo referred to John Stuart Mills argument against paternalism. Mills viewed restraint as evil and considered the burden of proof to be on those who were trying to inhibit an individual's autonomy. This is a utilitarian position in which good must outweigh bad and reward outweigh pain.

Dr. Restrepo spoke in a clear, animated voice and at a pace that easily allowed the students to comprehend the information. The board was used in an effective manner to write important terms and assist in structuring the lecture. Perhaps more importantly, Dr. Restrepo creates a relaxed atmosphere in the classroom which allows for a comfortable interaction with his students. He often asks them questions and many appeared eager to respond. He is respectful and patient with them and some of his responses seem to be designed to elicit critical thinking. In summary, given these various attributes, it should be said that Dr. Restrepo offered his students a valuable learning experience.

- The Observation was deemed satisfactory
- The Observation was deemed unsatisfactory

*Marshall Peller*  
Signature of Observer

October 11, 2013  
Date of Report

*10/15/13 K*  
Copy Given to Observed Employee  
(Date and Initials of Chairperson)

Initials