

PSCI 2302A
History of Political Thought II
14:35 p.m. – 17:25 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Colin Cordner

Office: Loeb A-637

Office Hours: Friday 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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Course Description

The purpose of this course is to aid students in developing both their capacities for theoretical thought and their critical analytical skills by which they analyze political texts and ideas. As such, a focus shall be placed on testing one's logical skills, and this shall be done by placing emphasis upon reflective analysis of the assigned texts, using the methods of philosophic anthropology (*philosophia peri ta anthropina*) as means of evaluating, classifying, and judging political ideas. Classes shall include extended discussion and Socratic dialogue as a means of building these critical skills and coming to reasonable assessments of the texts, while the tests and final paper shall serve as means to display one's skill in comprehending and communicating an understanding of the assorted thinkers and scientists.

The objective of this course shall thus be to develop i) a broad understanding of the history of modern political thought, ii) the ability to distinguish between scientific and ideological thought, iii) logical skills and the ability to identify common fallacies in political thought, iv) and a general ability to distinguish true theory from pseudo-theory.

Required texts

Hobbes, Thomas. *Leviathan : with selected variants from the Latin edition of 1668; edited, with introduction and notes, by Edwin Curley*. Indianapolis : Hackett Pub. Co., c1994.

Locke, John. *Second Treatise of Government*. Indianapolis : Hackett Pub. Co.

Polanyi, Michael. *The Study of Man*. Martino Fine Books.

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *The Basic Political Writings* (Second Edition, Blue Cover). Indianapolis : Hackett Pub. Co

Evaluation

30% Participation

30% In-class tests: Three short, non-cumulative, short-essay exams on different thinkers, each counting for 10% of the final grade.

40% Final paper: 7-8 pages, printed, double-spaced, 12-point Times-New Roman typeface with 1-inch margins; does not include bibliography or title-page. Citations should be in MLA or Chicago format, and include page or paragraph numbers. The final paper is due in-class on August 13th; late papers must be handed-in at the Political Science office (Loeb B-640), and will be penalized at a rate of 3% per day. Papers will be retrievable from the instructor or teaching-assistant after they have been graded - please check your Carleton e-mail for announcements as to times and place.

Schedule

July 2nd, Thursday: Introduction to course contents and methodology

July 7th - July 16th: Michael Polanyi on Science, Tradition, and History and *The Study of Man*, **Test:** July 16th
(Readings: *The Study of Man*, parts I, II, & III)

July 21st - July 30th: Thomas Hobbes and John Locke - Rationalism and the *libido dominandi*, **Test:** July 30th
(Readings: *Leviathan*, Author's Intro; Book I, ch. 1-16; Book II, ch. 17-19, 21, 29;
Second Treatise of Government: Editor's intro, ch. 1-6, 9-13)

August 4th - August 13th: J.J. Rousseau - Historicism, Individualism, and the General Will, **Test:** August 6th
(Readings: *Discourse on the Origin & Foundations of Inequality Among Men*;
On the Social Contract, Books I & II; Book III ch.1-2, 9-12; Book IV ch.1, 7-8)

Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as "presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own." This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

Approval of final grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Carleton E-mail Accounts: All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society: The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/> or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.