

**PSCI 6300F**  
**POLITICAL THEORY I**  
**Tuesday 14:35 – 17:25pm**  
**Please confirm location on Carleton Central**

**Instructor:** Dr. Tom Darby  
**Office:** C675 Loeb Building  
**Telephone:** 613-520-2600 ext. 2778  
**Office Hours:** Monday 12:30 - 14:00p.m.  
Wednesday 12:00 – 14:00p.m.  
**Email:** tom\_darby@carleton.ca

“Πολεμος πατερ παν τον“ (“War is the father of all”) Heraclitus, Fragment # 53

**Rationale:**

Because this course is primarily designed to prepare Ph.D. candidates for their comprehensive exam, it should be understood that all students taking this course must have attained a firm foundation in both the primary and secondary literature. This course - and indeed any proper course in political philosophy – is about the relation of text to context, the basis of interpretation itself. This particular course will focus on the texts surrounding the context of the Peloponnesian War- a ‘war like no other’ – which profoundly altered Classical Greek thought so as to establish that ‘dance’ between action and thought from which is derived what we have come to understand as politics and philosophy, and thus what results from this relation: Political Philosophy.

**Context:**

The literature (the texts) chosen to be to be interpreted in the course is an expression of the larger experiential context of this twenty seven year conflict between Athens and Sparta and their allies. The larger context expressed in the original literature and amplified by the secondary literature deal with such things as the causes for the war and its effects on Greek consciousness reflected upon by writers such as Aristophanes, Thucydides, Plato and indirectly by Aristotle. The general leitmotif of this literature pertains to the causes and effects of the ‘globalization’ of the Mediterranean by Athenian commercial imperialism which was made possible by one particular variable - the technical (τεκηναι) prowess of Athens’ navy. Thus, the root of Athens’ success and ultimately the root of her downfall was what developed into what we identify today as that complex relation of action and thought – making and knowing - that we moderns call technology (τεκηνε+λογος). Thus the leitmotif of this literature transcends its time and place and thereby serves as a case study for not only causes and effects of ‘globalization’, and empire and perhaps even as a ‘cautionary tale’ about arrogance (πλεονεχια). Thus this study of politics and philosophy connects with the larger global or modern and contemporary context and that connection is the tension at the heart of the West- the tension between the rural and the urban – between culture and civilization.

**Requirements:**

One (1) twenty (20) to twenty five (25) page essay (due November 30) worth 75% and  
Three (3) to five (5) carefully prepared class presentations worth 25%.

**N.B.**

Except in times of sickness, death in the family, absence of the professor, natural disaster or war, all classes must be attended, and all assignments must be prepared.

**Primary texts:**

Thucydides            *The Peloponnesian War* (Lattimore, trans. 1998)  
Hackett 0-87220-394-8

Plato & Aristophanes *Four Texts on Socrates: Aristophanes' "Clouds", Plato's "Apology", and "Crito"*  
(West & West trans, 1998) Cornell U Press 0801485746

Eight Platonic Dialogues, "Phaedo" (Jowett, trans, 1990) Dover 9780486454658.

Plato                    *Republic of Plato*, 2nd ed (Bloom ed, 1991)  
Basic Books 0465069347

Aristotle              *The Physics, The Metaphysics, The Genetics (selections/photocopy), The  
Politics* (trans. Lord 1984)  
U Chicago Press 0226026698

Hobbes                *Leviathan* (Selections)

**Supporting Secondary Literature, Selected and Categorized:****On or About the War**

Hanson, Victor Davis,    *A War like No Other*, Random House

Hanson, Victor Davis,    *Warfare and Agriculture in Classical Greece*, U.  
California Press

Kagan, John,              *The Peloponnesian War*, Penguin

Craig, Leon,                *The War Lover: A Study of Plato's Republic*, U.  
Toronto Press

### **On Plato**

- Bloom, Alan "Interpretative Essay" in *The 'Republic' of Plato*, Basic Books
- Cropsey, Joseph *Plato's World: Man's Place in the Cosmos*, U. of Chicago Press
- Hyland, Drew A., "Plato's Three Waves and the Question of Utopian Politics", *Interpretation*, Vol. 18/1 (Fall, 1990)
- Hanase, Waldemar "Poetic Justice for Plato's Democracy", *Interpretation*, Vol. 25/1 (Fall, 1997)
- Moore, Leighton "Laughing at the Logoi", *Interpretation*, Vol. 26/3 (Spring, 1999)
- Ranasinghe, Nail, "Deceit, Desire and the Dialectic: Plato's 'Republic' Revisited", *Interpretation*, Vol. 25/1 (Fall, 1997)
- Strauss, Leo "The Origins of Political Science and the Origins of Socrates", *Interpretation*, Vol. 23/2 (Winter, 1996)
- Zukert, Catherine *Plato's Philosophers: The Coherence of the Dialogues*, Notre dame U. Press

### **On Aristotle**

- Arendt, Hannah *The Human Condition*, Chicago U. Press
- Lord, Carnes "Introduction" in *The Politics* (of Aristotle) trans. Carnes Lord, Chicago U. Press
- Swanson, Judith & Meugi, Ken, "The Public and Private in Aristotle's Political Philosophy", *Interpretation*, Vol 21/3 (Spring 1994)
- Taylor, Quintin P., "Public Deliberation and Popular Government in Aristotle's Politics", In *Interpretation*, Vol. 29/3 (Spring, 2002)

### **On the Greek Ethos and Classical Political Philosophy**

- Dodds, E.R., *The Greeks and The Irrational*, U. California Press
- Hadot, Pierre *Philosophy as a Way of Life*, Blackwell Publishing
- Newell, Waller *Ruling Passion: The Erotics of Statecraft in Platonic Political Philosophy*
- Jaeger, Werner *Paideia: the Ideals of Greek Culture*, Vol.I , Oxford U. Press

Snell, Bruno	<i>The Discovery of Mind: The Greek Origins of European Thought</i> , Harper & Row
Strauss, Leo	<i>Socrates and Aristophanes</i> , Basic Books
Voegelin, Eric	<i>The World of the Polis</i> , Vol. II of Order and History, Louisiana State U. Press
Voelelin, Eric	“Reason: The Classic Experience”, <i>The Southern Review</i> , Vol. 10/3 (Spring 1974)
Visser, Margaret	<i>Beyond Fate</i> , House of Ananse

### **On Techne, Philosophy and Politics**

Darby, Tom	“On Spiritual Crisis, Globalization and Planetary Rule”, in <i>Faith, Reason and Political Life Today</i> , ed. Lawler and McConkey, Lexington Books
Hadot, Pierre	<i>The Veil of Isis: An Essay on the History of the Idea of Nature</i> , Harvard U. Press
Hale, John R.	<i>Lords of the Sea</i> , Viking
Nichols, James H.	“Technology in Classical Thought” in <i>Technology in the Western Political Tradition</i> , ed. Melzer, Weinburger and Zinman, Cornell U. Press
Rosen, Stanley	“Techne and the Origins of Modernity” in <i>Technology in the Western Political Tradition</i>
Roochnik, David	<i>Of Art and Wisdom: Plato’s Understanding of Techne</i> , Penn. State U. Press

### **Suggested general reference:**

Onians, R.B.	<i>The Origins of European Thought: About the Body, the Mind, the Soul, the World, Time and Fate</i> , Cambridge U. Press
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### **Guideline to Readings and Themes**

<b>September 7</b>	Course Orientation
<b>September 14</b>	Thucydides/ Hanson
<b>September 21</b>	Aristophanes’ ‘Clouds’ and ‘Acarians’” ‘Plato’s, ‘Apology’

<b>September 28</b>	'Crito', 'Phaedo'
<b>October 5</b>	'Republic' "
<b>October 19</b>	"Republic'
<b>October 26</b>	'Republic'
<b>October 9</b>	'Republic'
<b>November 2</b>	'Republic'
<b>November 9</b>	Selections from <i>Aristotle's Physics, Metaphysics and Genetics</i> together with Hobbes' <i>Leviathan</i>
<b>November 16</b>	<i>The Politics</i>
<b>November 23</b>	<i>The Politics</i>
<b>November 30</b>	<i>The Politics</i>

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### Academic Accommodations

**For students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your request for accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations**. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **November 15 2010 for December examinations and March 11 2011 for April examinations**.

**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](http://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 include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

**Oral Examination:** At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be handed directly to the instructor 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. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Grading:** Assignments and exams will be graded with a percentage grade. To convert this to a letter grade or to the university 12-point system, please refer to the following table.

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.

**Course Requirements:** Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Connect Email Accounts:** All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via Connect. Important course and University information is also distributed via the Connect email system. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their Connect account.

**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 in the after-hours academic life 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, please email [carletonpss@gmail.com](mailto:carletonpss@gmail.com), visit our website at [poliscisociety.com](http://poliscisociety.com), 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.