

**Carleton University**

**Winter 2011**

**Department of Political Science**

PSCI 2300B

History of Political Thought

Monday 09:35 to 10:25 am, Wednesday 09:35 to 10:25am

Please confirm with Carleton Central

Fall Term

Instructor: Dr. Peter Emberley

Office: Loeb D665

Telephone: 613-520-2600 ext. 2577 (no voicemail)

Office Hours: 12:30 to 13:30 Monday to Thursday

Email: [pemberley@ccs.carleton.ca](mailto:pemberley@ccs.carleton.ca)

Winter Term

Instructor: Dr. K.C. Fitzpatrick

Office: Loeb D646

Telephone: (613) 520-2600 ext. 1598

Office Hours: Wednesday, 14:30 – 15:30

Email: [kfitzpat@connect.carleton.ca](mailto:kfitzpat@connect.carleton.ca)

**Course Description**

This course will introduce students to modern European political theory from the Italian Renaissance to later 19<sup>th</sup> century continental thought. The aim and objective of this course is to introduce students to foundational texts in the Western tradition and give them the opportunity to experience a firsthand engagement with political philosophy. To this end, students will be required to read extended selections from the original texts in order that they gain an understanding, not only of the content and controversies of the political questions interrogated therein; but will learn to do by doing. In political philosophy, the “how” of the process is equally as important as the “what” and students are expected to demonstrate, in their essay and exam answers that they have struggled to define and rationally assess the questions under discussion themselves, as well as demonstrating a clear and competent grasp of the thoughts and ideas encountered in the reading and lecture material. One of the key lessons of studying political theory across the Classical, Christian and Modern Traditions is to learn that while there may be no “answer” to the philosophical questions examined, they are themselves eternal and enduring.

Pondering politics in a philosophical manner is to actually engage in the process of thinking as an end in itself. Philosophy is derived from the Greek for the love of wisdom; and to seek wisdom concerning politics is to encounter the limits and possibilities of human nature and its place in the world. As each thinker encounters his own search for the truth, he turns to his own reflections and experience in light of those who went before him. Political philosophy is a living tradition and this class is an invitation to join the great human conversation, in the words of Hannah Arendt in the eternal now, between past and future.

**Sources:**

1. Machiavelli, Selected Political Writings, edited and translated by David Wootton, (Hackett Publishing Company, Inc, Indianapolis, Indiana) 1994, ISBN 9780872202474
2. Descartes, Discourse on Method and the Meditations, Introduction by F.E. Sutcliffe, Penguin Classics, ISBN 9780140442069
3. Hobbes, Leviathan, with an Introduction by C.B. McPherson, Penguin Classics, First Published in 1968, ISBN 978014043157
4. Locke, Treatise of Civil Government and A Letter Concerning Toleration, (Irvington Publishers, Inc. 1979) ISBN 0891975195
5. Rousseau, On the Origins of Inequality, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Translated by Maurice Cranston, Penguin Classics, ISBN 9780140444391
6. Kant, Political Writings, Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought, edited by Hans Reiss and Translated by H.B. Nisbet, 2<sup>nd</sup> Enlarged Edition, (Cambridge University Press; Cambridge) 1991, ISBN 9780521398374
7. Hegel, The Essential Writings, ed. by Frederick G. Weiss (Harper and Row Paperback: New York) 1974, ISBN 9780061318313
8. The Marx-Engels Reader, Second Edition by Robert C. Tucker (W.W. Norton and Company, New York) 1978, ISBN 9780393090406
9. Nietzsche, On the Genealogy of Morality, Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought, edited by Keith Ansell-Pearson, (Cambridge University Press; Cambridge) 1994, ISBN 9780521691655

You should use ONLY the exact texts ordered for the course, as we will be making continuous reference to page numbers and passages from these editions. Other translations can be misleading, and their use will make it very difficult to follow the lectures. You are required to bring the book we are reading to class.

As one of the key aims and objectives of this course is to encourage students in the validity and value of their own thoughts and ideas, the required readings in this class are taken directly from the original texts and not from derivative and

secondary source material. While the use of simplified explanatory materials (whether from “short introductory texts” or websites) may seem tempting when confronted and disconcerted by unfamiliar styles, complex ideas and challenging material, this after all is actual point of the exercise and a necessary part of the learning process. Rather than helping, such materials will actively hurt you academically and more importantly, possibly harm your own intellectual growth and confidence as a human being. Besides boring you to tears, they will overwhelm you with information of the worst kind and prevent you from doing the one thing that is key to success in this class, thinking for yourself.

Use and/or citation of secondary materials of any kind in essays or exams is **strictly forbidden** and will result in a failing grade.

### **Course Requirements and Evaluation:**

**25% 1<sup>st</sup> Short Essay** - 5 to 7 pages (due Feb. 28, at the end of Class)

**25% 2<sup>nd</sup> Short Essay** - 5 to 7 pages (due April 4, at the end of Class)

**20% Class Tutorial Participation**, including assigned presentation

**30% Final Exam** (scheduled by Register)

The Exam will be 3hrs and contain two sections: the first will be a choice of 4 short answer questions out of a possible 6; (40%); the second section will be a choice of two essay questions from a choice of 5 (60%).

### **General Schedule of Lectures and Required Readings:**

Class 1: Mon. Jan. 3 – Introduction and Machiavelli, *The Prince*:

Readings: Dedication and Chapters: 1 – 3, 5 – 9, 15 – 17

Class 2: Wed. Jan. 5 – Machiavelli, *The Prince*

Readings: Chapters: 18 - 22, 24 - 26

Class 3: Mon. Jan. 10 – Machiavelli, *The Discourses*:

Readings: The Dedication; From Bk. 1; Preface and Chapters, 1 – 5, 9 – 13, 16 – 18, 26, 34, and 55 and 58.

Class 4: Wed. Jan. 12 – Machiavelli, *The Discourses*

Readings, Bk. 2: Preface and Chapters, 1 – 2, 19, 27 and 29, Bk. 3, Chapters, 1, 7 – 9, 31 and 41.

Class 5: Mon. Jan. 17 – Descartes, *Discourse on Method*

Readings: Discourses 1 - 3

Class 6: Wed. Jan. 19 – Descartes, *Discourse on Method*

Readings: Discourses 4 - 6

Class 7: Mon. Jan. 24 - Hobbes, *Leviathan Pt. 1; Of Man*

Readings: Chapters: 1 – 5

Class 8: Wed. Jan. 26 – Hobbes, *Leviathan, Pt. 1; Of Man*

Readings: Chapters 6 – 7, 9 – 11, 13 - 16

Class 9: Mon. Jan. 31 – Hobbes, *Leviathan Pt. 2; Of Commonwealth*

Readings: Chapters: 17 – 20, 21 and 22

Class 10: Wed. Feb. 2 – Hobbes, *Leviathan, Pt. 2; Of Commonwealth*

Readings: Chapters: 24, 26, 28 - 31

Class 11: Mon. Feb. 7 – Locke, *Treatise of Civil Government*

Readings: Introduction and Chapters 1 - 7

Class 12: Wed. Feb. 9 – Locke, *Treatise of Civil Government*

Readings: Chapters 8, 9, 11, 13 - 16

Class 13: Mon. Feb. 14 – Rousseau, *A Discourse on Inequality*

Readings: Letter to the Republic of Geneva, Preface and Part 1

Class 14: Wed. Feb. 16 – Rousseau, *Discourse cont'd*

Readings: *A Discourse on Inequality*; Part Two

Class 15: Mon – Feb. 28 - Kant, *Political Writings*

Readings: *The Metaphysics of Morals*

Class 16: Wed. March 2 – Kant, *Political Writings*

Readings: *Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Purpose*

Class 17: Mon. March 7- Hegel, *The Essential Writings*

Readings: *Dialectic and Human Experience: The Phenomenology of Spirit*

Class 18: Wed. March 9 – Hegel, *The Essential Writings*

Readings: *Objective Spirit: Human Conduct and Philosophic Truth*

Class 19: Mon. March 14 - Marx, *The Marx-Engles Reader*

Readings: *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844*

Class 20: Wed. March 16 – Marx, *The Marx-Engles Reader*

Readings: *Manifesto of the Communist Party*

Class 21: Mon. March 21 - Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morality*

Readings: Nietzsche: Preface and 1<sup>st</sup> Essay Aphorisms 1 – 7, 10 – 11, 13 – 14, 16 – 17

Class 22: Wed. March 23 – Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morality*

Readings: - 2<sup>nd</sup> Essay Aphorisms 1 – 2, 6 - 12 16 – 25,

Class 23: Mon. March 28 - Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morality*

Readings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Essay Aphorisms 1, 7, 9 – 13, 18, 23 – 28

Class 24: Wed. March 30 - Conclusion and Review.

Mon. April 4 – Last Day of Class and Exam Preparation

**All components of the course must be completed in order to receive a passing grade.**

Course work will be evaluated by the content of their critical and analytical thought as well as the basic requirement that students demonstrate a clear and competent understanding of lecture material and the assigned course readings. Writing style, including spelling, grammar and the thoughtful presentation of a coherent structure and argument, will also be taken into consideration.

Late Submission of Work: Papers/assignments must be submitted in class to the Instructor on the day they are due. **The Political Science drop-box is intended to collect late assignments only**, or if a student has extenuating circumstances which have been approved by the instructor, at least a week before the due date. There will be a mandatory late penalty for any papers/assignments collected from the drop box without prior approval, **even on the date the assignment is due**. This policy has been implemented to ensure students attend class on assignment due dates. The drop box is emptied every weekday at 4 p.m. and all items collected at that time are date-stamped with the day's date. **Late penalties are one-third letter grade per day late**, i.e. a paper grade B+ is downgraded to B the first late day, followed by B- the next etc. Papers more than 1 week late will not be accepted without a prior extension being granted by the instructor. Valid medical excuses only accepted for term work extensions.

**Note:** Attendance is required at all lectures. Valid excuses accepted, otherwise absenteeism will not be tolerated. Students are expected to bring the book we are reading to class lectures.

## 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 **March 11** for winter term 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.

**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.