

HUMS 4903

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Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday noon to 1:30 or by appointment

The Intellectual Origins of Liberal Capitalism

Course Outline: This course involves an extended study of some of the central ideas and authors of the Enlightenment. This study will focus in particular on the arguments offered in favour of the emerging economic and political structures of liberal capitalism. This examination entails a broad consideration of liberal capitalism, one that countenances its moral and political aspects as much as its explicitly economic elements. This seminar will discuss these texts in the context of the long eighteenth century. It will consider Enlightenment ideas about property and commerce in light of the feudal and mercantile systems it sought to replace. Of equal import, the seminar will attempt to understand these ideas independent of the subsequent developments of the nineteenth century, most especially the Industrial Revolution.

Required Texts

Montesquieu, *The Spirit of the Laws*, Cambridge University Press

Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*, Liberty Fund

Seminar Schedule

Week 1

Introduction

Mandeville, *The Fable of the Bees* (Available at libertyfund.org)

Week 2

Montesquieu, *The Spirit of the Laws*, Part 1

Montesquieu, *The Spirit of the Laws*, Part 1

Week 3

The Spirit of the Laws, Part 2

The Spirit of the Laws, Part 2

Week 4

The Spirit of the Laws, Part 3

The Spirit of the Laws, Part 3

Week 5

The Spirit of the Laws, Part 4

The Spirit of the Laws, Part 4

Week 6

The Spirit of the Laws, Part 5

The Spirit of the Laws, Part 5

Week 7

The Spirit of the Laws, Part 6

The Spirit of the Laws, Part 6

Week 8

Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*, Book 1 (Excluding Part III)

Wealth of Nations, Book 1 (Excluding Part III)

Week 9

Wealth of Nations, Book 2

Wealth of Nations, Book 2

Week 10

Wealth of Nations, Book 3

Wealth of Nations, Book 3

Week 11

Wealth of Nations, Book 4

Wealth of Nations, Book 4

Week 12

Wealth of Nations, Book 5

Wealth of Nations, Book 5

Assignments and Grading

Two Reading Reports 10% each.

One Term Paper 40%

One Seminar Presentation 30%

Participation 20%

Reading Reports

Students must submit two three page reading reports over the course of the semester. The reports should address the readings assigned for the week in which they are submitted.

Where applicable students may choose the week/reading they wish to submit a report on.

The reports are due at the beginning of lecture on Thursdays. Papers submitted late will receive a grade of zero.

Term Paper

Students must submit one term paper, approximately 2500 words in length, at the beginning of the final seminar. Students may choose their own topics, provided they concern one or more of the authors studied in this course. Students must submit a one paragraph précis of their paper topic by March 19th. **Papers submitted without a prior précis will not be accepted for evaluation. Term papers submitted after the final lecture will be docked 5% per day.**

Seminar Presentation

Each student must present on the assigned readings for one class. Students should prepare a half hour presentation on an aspect of the readings of their own choosing. The remainder of the class will be spent discussing both the material presented and the presentation itself.

Participation

Students are expected to arrive at class having done the readings and prepared to participate in a discussion of their substance.

Completion of Course Components

To pass the course students must complete all components of the course, including attendance.

Grading

A+ Extraordinary work that greatly exceeds the requirements of a third year paper. This grade is rarely awarded.

A Excellent work: very insightful analysis; clear and persuasive thesis that goes beyond the ideas presented in lecture; free of any typographical or grammatical errors;
A-/ B+ Very strong work: insightful and clear, but in need of a bit of clarification, revision, or proofreading.

B/B- Good work. Demonstrates a solid understanding of the text and lectures, but requires more significant revision, clarification, or proofreading

C+ /C/C- Average to poor work. Lacks a clear or insightful thesis and requires extensive revision, clarification, or proofreading

F Unacceptable or non-existent work.

A Final Note

Completion of all elements of the course is mandatory. Failure to complete any component or components will result in a failing grade.

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*to use and pass off as one’s own idea or product the work of another without expressly giving credit to another.*” This can include:

- Copying from another person's work without indicating this through appropriate use of quotation marks and footnote citations.
- Lengthy and close paraphrasing of another person's work (i.e. extensive copying interspersed with a few phrases or sentences of your own).
- Submitting written work produced by someone else as if it were your own work (e.g. another student's term paper, a paper purchased from a term paper "factory", materials or term papers downloaded from the Internet, etc.).
- Handing in "*substantially the same piece of work to two or more courses without the prior written permission of the instructors...involved.*" (University Senate)

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 range from a mark of zero for the plagiarized work to a final grade of "F" for the course, and even suspension from all studies or expulsion from the University.

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12) B+ = 77-79 (9) C+ = 67-69 (6)

A = 85-89 (11) B = 73-76 (8) C = 63-66 (5)

A - = 80-84 (10) B - = 70-72 (7) C - = 60-62 (4)

D+ = 57-59 (3) D = 53-56 (2) D - = 50-52 (1)

F Failure. No academic credit

WDN Withdrawn from the course

ABS Absent from the final examination

DEF Official deferral (see "Petitions to Defer")

FND “Failed, no Deferral” – assigned when the student is absent from the final exam and has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from Fall term courses is November 9th, 2007. Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter (full year) and Winter term courses is March 14th, 2008.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

For Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities to complete the necessary *Letters of Accommodation*. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet and discuss your needs with me in order to make the necessary arrangements as early in the term as possible. Please note the deadline for submitting completed forms to the Paul Menton Centre is November 9th 2007 (for fall and fall/winter term courses) / March 14th, 2008 (for winter term courses).

For Religious Obligations:

Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation should make a formal, written request to their instructors 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 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.

Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton's Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance.

For Pregnancy:

Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to complete a **final** term paper or write a **final** examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control or whose performance on an examination has been impaired by such circumstances may apply in writing within five working days to the Registrar's Office for permission to extend a term paper deadline or to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered.

ADDRESSES

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Classics and Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608	500 Unicentre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-6632	229 Paterson