Carleton University Fall 2021

Kroeger College

**PAPM 2001 (A)**

**Foundations of Public Policy: Political Thought**

Mondays from 2:25PM – 4:25PM on Zoom (link on Brightspace)

Instructor: William Little

Office Hours: Thursdays 12:35-1:25PM, Fridays 10:35-11:25AM via Zoom, or by appointment (link on Brightspace)

Email: will.little@carleton.ca

**Course Description:**

Liberalism is understood by many to be the core ideology of contemporary politics in the West. But, what is liberalism? What are the historical origins of liberalism? What are some of the pressing critiques of liberalism? This course will address these questions. It will also examine: (i) how liberalism can be entrenched in public affairs and the management of public policy and (ii) whether and in what ways the entrenchment of liberal ideals can lead to the systemic exclusion of certain groups of people such as the poor, people of colour, and women.

In the first half of the course, we will look at four accounts of liberalism written between 1689 and 1995. We will begin by reading John Locke and John Stuart Mill, both of whom helped establish the foundations of liberalism. Although they might not have recognized themselves as liberals, they were vital in constructing Enlightenment ideals of freedom, equality, and self-ownership. After addressing these historical figures, we will turn to more contemporary scholarship from John Rawls and Brian Barry, both of whom were heavily influenced by Locke and Mill. However, they also expanded upon and, at times, transformed their ideas to create a liberal political theory fit for the twentieth century.

In the second half of the course, we will engage with three critiques of liberalism from feminism, critical race theory, and egalitarianism. These three critiques often focus on what they perceive to be the mirage of liberal neutrality and the dichotomy of public and private that helps to perpetuate it. To understand how these theories can be deployed in practice we will also examine how these critiques are applied in the realm of public affairs and the management of public policy.

**Learning Objectives:**

This course is designed to help students:

1. Gain an understanding of the historical foundations of liberalism
2. Provide an account of the key political concepts of liberalism such as equality, freedom, and self-ownership
3. Recognize the key critiques of liberalism grounded in ideas of poverty, race, and gender
4. Connect the theories of liberalism as well as their critiques to the practical business of public policy and the management of public affairs
5. Develop skills in analytical thinking, critical reading, and constructing arguments

**Required Texts:**

All texts are available through Brightspace at no cost to you. If you would like to purchase a physical copy of any of the texts, many of them can be found online or through your local bookstore.

**Brightspace:**

The online lectures for this course will only be accessible through Brightspace. Important course announcements and course materials (syllabus, discussion questions for tutorials, essay questions, readings) will also be posted on Brightspace. Please ensure that you have access to Brightspace and consult it regularly.

**Course Requirements and Grading Scheme:**

* Tutorial Participation 10%
* Essay #1 25% **(Due Oct 24)**
* Essay #2 25% **(Due Nov. 28)**
* Take Home Exam 40%

**Tutorial Participation**

Tutorials will begin on Monday, September 20 and will be both in-person and online. Please consult Carleton Central for information on your tutorial.

Tutorial participation is an integral component of this course. Students will have the opportunity to ask questions of their TA, engage critically with the course readings and, through discourse with their fellow students, develop better and more nuanced understandings of the ideas and debates that we will be covering in the course.

Each student’s tutorial participation grade (worth 10% of the fall term grade) will be based on the quality (not necessarily the quantity) of his or her participation in the tutorial discussions. In order to earn a top grade for participation, a student must contribute positively to the learning atmosphere of his or her tutorial group. Among other requirements, this entails regular attendance, participation that is respectful of other students and the TA, and demonstration that the student has done the week’s reading, thought critically about it in advance of the tutorial session, and arrived prepared to pose questions and critically discuss the reading with his or her fellow students.

**Essays**

Each student will be required to submit two short essays during the term. The essays will be comparative in nature and will each count for 25% of the student’s fall term grade. Each essay will be subject to an upper limit of 5 double-spaced pages in length (12 point font, margins of at least ¾ inch).

The first essay will address a question related to the thought of Locke and Mill. The second will address a question related to contemporary critiques of liberalism and how those critiques have been put into practice in the realm of public policy and the managements of public affairs. Students will be given a choice of questions for each essay. The essay questions will be posted on Brightspace.

The first essay will be due at 11:59PM on **OCTOBER 3rd**. The second essay will be due at 11:59 on **NOVEMBER 29th**. Students will be able to submit their essays through Brightspace.

**Late Penalties:**

Essays submitted after the due date will be subject to a penalty of 3% per day (weekends count as one day).

Extensions will be granted at the discretion of the professor and only for serious and **documented** medical reasons or for other emergency personal circumstances. Requests for extensions submitted after the due date will usually not be considered. It is the students’ responsibility to manage their time effectively.

**December Examination**

The December examination will be a take home exam. You will have one week to complete it.

The exam will be cumulative (i.e. all material covered in the course will be examinable), and will be composed of essay questions. The final examination will count for 40% of each student’s fall term grade.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence that involves presenting another person’s ideas, arguments, or words as one’s own either through deliberate fraud or on account of inaccurate or improper documentation. The penalties for plagiarism are severe.

Students are strongly encouraged to consult with their professor if they have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism.

**Academic Support:**

Carleton University offers a range of excellent services for students seeking various forms of academic support. If you require support, please contact Carleton Student Academic Support at https://carleton.ca/csas/.

**Course Schedule:**

**Week 1 (Sept. 13): Introduction to the Course**

* [No tutorials this week]

**Week 2 (Sept. 20):**

* Reading: John Locke, *A Letter Concerning Toleration* (pp. 3-46).
  + Available on ARES
  + **Tutorials begin**

**Week 3 (Sept. 27):**

* Reading: John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty* (pp. 1-52).
  + Available on ARES

**Week 4 (Oct. 4):**

* Reading: John Rawls, *A Theory of Justice* (pp. 3-24; pp. 52-73).
  + Available on ARES

**Week 5 (Oct. 11):**

* Thanksgiving – No lecture

**Week 6 (Oct. 18):**

* Reading: John Rawls, *Political Liberalism* (pp. 3-15; pp. 47-66; pp. 173-176; pp. 212-223).
  + Available on ARES
    - **FIRST ESSAY DUE END OF THIS WEEK (OCT 24TH)**

**Week 7: (Oct. 25): No Lecture or Tutorials (Fall Break)**

**Week 8 (Nov. 1):**

* Reading: Brian Barry, *Justice as Impartiality* (pp. 28-72).
  + Available on ARES

**Week 9 (Nov. 8):**

* Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic, *Critical Race Theory: An Introduction* (pp. 1-27)
* Readings: Charles Mills, “Racial Liberalism” *PMLA* (pp. 1380-1397)
  + Available on ARES

**Week 10 (Nov. 15):**

# Readings: Gerardo R. Lopez, “The (Racially Neutral) Politics of Education: A Critical Race Theory Perspective” *Educational Administration Quarterly* (pp. 68-87)

# Wendy M. Limbert and Heather E. Bullock, “‘Playing the Fool’: US Welfare Policy from a Critical Race Perspective” *Feminism and Psychology* (pp. 253-268)

* + Available on ARES

**Week 11 (Nov. 22):**

* Reading: Catherine Mackinnon, *Towards a Feminist Theory of the State* – Chapter 8: The Liberal State and Chapter 13: Towards Feminist Jurisprudence (pp. 157-170; pp. 239-249).
  + Available on ARES
    - **SECOND ESSAY DUE END OF THIS WEEK (NOV 28)**

**Week 12 (Nov. 29):**

* Emanuela Lombardo and Petra Meier, “Policy.” In *The Oxford Handbook of Feminist Theory*, edited by Lisa Disch and Mary Hawkesworth (pp. 610-631)
  + Available on ARES
* Nancy Fraser, “After the Family Wage: Gender Equity and the Welfare State” *Political Theory* (pp. 591-618)
  + Available on ARES

**Week 13 (Dec. 6)**

* Reading: Richard Arnesen, “Luck Egalitarianism – A Primer” in Carl Knight and Zofia Stemplowska (ed.) *Responsibility and Distributive Justice* (pp. 24-50)
  + Available on ARES

**Week 14 (Dec. 10)**

* Kim Angell and Robert Huseby, Angell, “Global Luck Egalitarianism and Border Control.” *Ratio Juris* (pp. 77-192)
  + Available on ARES

**Academic Accommodations**

**Requests for Academic Accommodation**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy obligation**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [**carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf**](http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

**Religious obligation**Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [**carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf**](http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. [**carleton.ca/pmc**](http://carleton.ca/pmc)

**Survivors of Sexual Violence**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [**carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support**](http://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

**Accommodation for Student Activities**Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. [**https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf**](https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf)

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [**students.carleton.ca/course-outline**](http://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)

**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.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

**COVID-19 Regulations**

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) and [mandatory self-screening](https://carleton.ca/covid19/screening/) prior to coming to campus daily.

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the mandatory [symptom reporting tool](https://carleton.ca/covid19/covid-19-symptom-reporting/). For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be recorded in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the [COVID-19 website](http://carleton.ca/covid19).

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food or drinks are permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton’s COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the [University’s COVID-19 webpage](https://carleton.ca/covid19/) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)](https://carleton.ca/covid19/faq/). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact [covidinfo@carleton.ca](mailto:covidinfo@carleton.ca)

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](https://carleton.ca/studentaffairs/student-rights-and-responsibilities/). Failure to comply with Carleton’s COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.

**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 Brightspace  As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Carleton and Brightspace accounts.