

PSCI 4307A / 5309W
Concepts of Political Community II
Seminar: Fridays 11:35 am to 2:25 pm, Paterson 240

Instructor: Waller R. Newell, Professor of Political Science and Philosophy.

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Requirements:

1) A term paper of 15 pages double-spaced typed due on the last day for the completion of term work (Friday, April 7). Topics will be provided along with more detailed guidance about what is expected from the paper. 2) Weekly oral presentations on the readings on an equally rotating basis. This will enable me to get to know each of you and enable each student to shape the discussion in identifying important themes and issues in the readings. Each component worth 50% of grade.

Readings:

1. Plato. *The Republic*. Bloom translation. Basic Books.
2. G.W.F. Hegel. *The Phenomenology of Spirit*. Miller translation. Oxford.

Theme of the Course:

The first half of the course considered how the norms that bind a community together and govern its citizens can be anything other than a coercive imposition if (as modernity assumes) human beings are autonomous individuals. The second half of the course will explore two of the most famous and influential answers to this fundamental question of how to reconcile the individual with the political community, Plato's REPUBLIC and Hegel's PHENOMENOLOGY OF SPIRIT. Plato's REPUBLIC is the foundational text of political philosophy for the West, exploring the prospects for the reconciliation of wisdom and just authority and the extent to which citizenship is in harmony with the highest human excellence and fulfillment. Hegel's PHENOMENOLOGY OF SPIRIT is the attempt to re-enact the Platonic ascent of the soul on the basis of an ontology of historicism, remedying the defects of liberalism without sacrificing its nobler achievements by restoring a version of the classical account on the basis of, and synthesized with, modern principles of autonomy and freedom, and specifically to oppose the

millenarianism of the French Revolution.

Late Paper Policy:

The due date of April 7 for submission of the term paper is mandatory and set by the University. I am not authorized to grant extensions. Late papers will be penalized by a half grade for each day past the deadline (i.e., A to A -).

Assessment of Undergraduate and Graduate Students:

Both undergraduate and graduate students will be assessed on their ability to undertake in both the oral presentations and the term papers a close exegesis of the required readings and relate them to the broader theme of the course. In keeping with their more extensive background, graduate students will be expected to bring to this exercise a relatively greater capacity to synthesize their term papers and presentations with a deeper and more detailed grounding in the history of political ideas and its major paradigms.

Academic Accommodations

For Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) to complete the necessary forms. 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 in-class test or CUTV midterm exam**. This will allow for sufficient time to process your request. Please note the following deadlines for submitting completed forms to the PMC for formally scheduled exam accommodations: **November 7th, 2005** for fall and fall/winter term courses, and **March 10, 2006** for winter term courses.

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 Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as: "to use and pass off as one's own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another." The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another's work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student's own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student's own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the

Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department's Style Guide is available at: www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/styleguide.pdf

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.*

Course Requirements: Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. 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: The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See <http://connect.carleton.ca> for instructions on how to set up your account.