

**Carleton University**

**Summer 2014**

**Department of Political Science**

PSCI 2300A

History of Political Thought

Tues. and Thurs. 9:35 am to 12:25 pm

Please Confirm with Carleton Central

Full Summer Term

Instructor: Dr. K.C. Fitzpatrick

Office: Loeb B646

Telephone: (613) 520-2600 ext. 1598

Office Hours: Thursday 1-2

Email: [kathlean.fitzpatrick@carleton.ca](mailto:kathlean.fitzpatrick@carleton.ca)

Course Description

The Full Summer Course of History of Political Thought will cover foundation Western political theory texts from the Classical, Christian and Modern Periods. 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 and end in itself. Philosophy is derived from the Greek for the love of wisdom; and to seek wisdom concerning politics is the 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. Themes to be explored during the course of the summer reading and lecture series will be the nature of justice, the organization of the polis, citizenship and the rule of law, the nature of good and evil, free will and authority, sovereignty, the social contract and the nature of consent and democratic participation, ethical community, civil society and the state, historical materialism and alienation under capitalism, as well as the drive to dominance and the will to power. 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 (In Chronological Order of Lecture Series):**

1. Bloom, Allan, *The Republic of Plato*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Basic Books 1991 ISBN- 978-0-465-D6934-7
2. Aristotle, *The Politics*, Translated by T.A. Sinclair, Penguin Classics, 1992, ISBN 9780140444216
3. Augustine, *Political Writings*, Translated by Michael W. Tkacz and Douglas Kries, (Hackett Publishing Company, Indianapolis, Indiana) 1994, ISBN 9780872202108
4. Hobbes, *Leviathan*, with an Introduction by C.B. McPherson, Penguin Classics, First Published in 1968, ISBN 978014043157
5. Locke, "Two Treatises of Government" Cambridge U Press. ISBN: 9780521357302.
6. Rousseau, *On the Origins of Inequality*, (Hackett Publishing) ISBN: 9780872201507
7. 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
8. Hegel, *The Essential Writings*, ed. by Frederick G. Weiss (Harper and Row Paperback: New York) 1974, ISBN 9780061318313
9. *The Marx-Engels Reader*, Second Edition by Robert C. Tucker (W.W. Norton and Company, New York) 1978, ISBN 9780393090406
10. 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

**A Cautionary Tale for Supplemental Short-Cuts**

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. As a word of warning, such materials while supplemental will actively hurt you academically if you substitute them for the original texts. There is nothing like the confidence and independence to be gained from the challenge of engaging the real thing; they are the voices of genius from the past that will open your mind and spirit in inspiring and unexpected ways. Secondary sources may summarize material, but will lack the passion and originality of the author and besides boring you to tears, 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:**

**15% 1<sup>st</sup> Short Essay** - 5 to 6 pages (due May 27, 2013, at the end of Class)

**15% 2<sup>nd</sup> Short Essay** - 5 to 6 pages (due July 3, 2013, at the end of Class)

**20% Mid-Term Exam** (to be scheduled by the Register)

**15% 3<sup>rd</sup> Short Essay** – 5 to 6 pages (due July 29, end of class)

**15% 4<sup>th</sup> Short Essay** – 5 to 6 pages (due Aug. 14, end of class)

**20% Final Exam** (to be scheduled by the Register)

**Schedule of Lectures and Required Readings: Part 1: Early Summer Term  
Classical and Christian Periods**

Class 1: Tues. May 6, Plato, The Republic Bk. I-II

Class 2: Thurs. May 8, Plato, The Republic Bk. III-IV

Class 3: Tues. May 13 Plato, The Republic Bk. V-VI

Class 4: Thurs. May. 15, Plato, The Republic Bk. VII - VIII

Class 5: Tues. May 20, Plato, The Republic Bk. IX - X

Class 6: Thurs. May 22, Aristotle, Politics, Bk. I, i-iii

Class 7: Tues. May 27, Aristotle, Politics, Bk. II, i- v

Class 8: Thurs. June 29, Aristotle, Politics, Bk. III, i-iv, ix-xiii

Class 9: Tues. June 3, Aristotle, Politics, Bk. IV, i-iv, ix-xii

Class 10: Thurs. June 5, Aristotle, Politics, Bk. VII, i-iii, xiii - xv

Class 11: Tues. June 10, Augustine, Political Writings,

Bk. I, (chap. 1, 19, 21,) Bk. IV, (chap. 4, 33) Bk.V (chap. 9, 16 – 19), Bk VIII, (ch. 3, 6, 10), Bk. X (chap. 3, 14), Bk. XI (chap. 16, 26) Bk. XII (chap. 1, 4,6)

Class 12: Thurs. June 12, Augustine, Political Writings,

Bk XIV (chap. 6, 11, 25), Bk. XV (chap. 2, 4, 22), Bk. XVIII (chap. 2, 41, 54), Bk XIX (chap. 1, 2, 13 – 19)

Class 13: Tues. June 17, Augustine, Political Writings

Bk. XX (chap. 1, 2, 11), Bk. XXI (chap. 16, 24), Bk. XXII (chap. 1, 6, 29, 30)

No Class: Thurs. June 19

### **General Schedule of Lectures and Required Readings: Part II: Late Summer Term Modern Period**

Class 1: Thurs. July 3 – The Birth of Modernity: Renaissance and Reformation

Class 2: Tues. July 8 – Hobbes, *Leviathan Pt. 1; Of Man*

Readings: Chapters: 1 – 5, 6 – 7, 9 – 11, 13 - 16

Class 3: Thurs. July 10 – Hobbes, *Leviathan Pt. 2; Of Commonwealth*

Readings: Chapters: 17 – 20 – 22, 24, 26, 28 - 31

Class 4: Tues. July 15 – Locke, *2<sup>nd</sup> Treatise of Civil Government*

Readings: Introduction and Chapters 1 - 7

Class 5: Thurs. July 17 – Locke, *2<sup>nd</sup> Treatise of Civil Government*

Readings: Chapters 8, 9, 11, 13 – 15, 18 & 19

Class 6: Tues. July 22 - Rousseau, *A Discourse on Inequality*

Readings: Preface and Part 1

Class 7: Thurs. July 24 – Rousseau, *A Discourse on Inequality Pt. 2*

Class 8: Tues. July 29 – Kant, *Political Writings*

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

Class 9: Thurs. July 31 - Hegel, *The Essential Writings*

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

Class 10: Tues. Aug. 5 - Marx, *The Marx-Engles Reader*

Readings: *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844* and *Communist Manifesto*

Class 11: Thurs. Aug. 7, Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morality*

Readings: - 1st Essay (Aph. 1, 6, 7, 10, 11 & 13), 2<sup>nd</sup> Essay (Aph. 1, 2, 6 – 9, 11, 12, 16 17 and 24),

Class 12: Tues. Aug. 12, Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morality*

3<sup>rd</sup> Essay, (Aph. 1, 10 – 12, 18, 23 -28)

Review Class, Thurs. Aug. 14

### **Administration and Regulations**

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.

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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 **June 11 2010 for early summer examinations and July 30 2010 for late summer 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.