

Carleton University
Department of Political Science

Fall 2010

PSCI 2300A
History of Political Thought
Monday 10:35-11:25 / Wednesday 10:35-11:25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

FALL

Instructor: Dr. Tom Darby
Office: C675 Loeb Building
Telephone: 520-2600 ext . 2778
Office Hours: Monday 12:00 -14:00 and Friday 13:00- 14:00
Email: tom_darby@carleton.ca

Purpose of the course:

The first semester of this course is an introduction to the Classical Pagan and Classical Christian political philosophers. The theme that connects these thinkers is the fundamental concern of philosophy itself – the status of the relation of action to thought. The focus of this course will be ‘globalization’, ancient and modern. You will note that, with only one exception, all of the **required** sources for this course are the original writings of the authors who actually wrote them. The primary purpose of this course is to teach students how to interpret rich and complex ideas found in philosophical and political texts and to speak and write about them clearly. Except for the ‘template essay’ by Harvey Mansfield, “How to Understand Politics” , **THE USE OF SECONDARY SOURCES IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN..**

Sources in order:

1. Plato - “The Apology of Socrates”, “The Crito” (recommended: Plato’s “Euthyphro”, and “Phaedo” and Aristophanes’ “Clouds”) in Thomas G. West and Grace Starry West, *Four Texts on Socrates*, (Cornell University Press, Ithaca, 1998)
Plato Bks I, II, V, VI, VII – Alan Bloom, *The Republic of Plato: 2nd Edition*, (Basic Books, 1991)
2. Aristotle – Carnes Lord, *The Politics*, (University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1985)
selected chapters TBA (recommended :short selected sections from The Ethics, The Physics and The Metaphysics, TBA)
3. Course pack consisting of selections from the writings of St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas (recommended: the following books from the Jewish and Christian Bibles: “Genesis”, “Exodus”, “Job”, “Isaiah”, “Jeremiah”, “Daniel” “Matthew”, “Mark,” “Luke”, “John”, “Revelation” .You are urged to use the New English Bible, and if not that, then the Revised Standard Version, in that they are the most scholarly texts. However, since no other literary work has influenced the English language more than the King James Version, using it is justifiable.)
4. Harvey Mansfield, photocopied essay “Understanding Politics”

Approximate dates of lectures and themes:

Sept. 13, 15 – Introduction: Spiritual Crisis and the Athenian ‘Globalization’ of the Mediterranean World.
 Sept. 20, 22, 27, 29 – “Apology” – The theme of Justice, Politics, Truth and Spiritual Crisis
 Oct. 4 - 6 – “Crito”, Phaedo” – The theme of obligation and ethics beyond necessity
 Oct. 11- Nov. 3 – The Politics – Man and the City, “Republic” – return to the theme of Justice, Politics and Authority,
 Nov. 8 – 10 - The Politics – Man and the City,
 Nov. 10 – The Jewish Bible – origin/content and spiritual purpose
 Nov. 15 - The Christian Bible – Spirit and History
 Nov. 17 -24 Spiritual Crisis, the Fall of Rome and the philosophy of St. Augustine
 Nov. 29 - Dec. 6 – The Medieval World Picture: St. Thomas and the ‘Great Chain of Being’

You should use **ONLY** the exact texts and translations ordered for the course as I will be making continuous reference to page numbers and passages from these editions. You will also be expected to cite from these editions in your essays.

Course Requirements:

- 15% Tutorial Participation
- 15% First Term Essay (app. 14pp. due on first day of class second term)
(Note: essay not a research paper, i.e., exclusive use of required course sources, thus, no-secondary sources allowed.)
- 20% Midterm Exam (To be scheduled during formal December exam period)

This course does not lend itself to early feedback.

NOTE: Attendance is required at all lectures and tutorials. Valid excuses accepted, otherwise, absenteeism will not be tolerated.

PSCI 2300A Winter Term Information:

Instructor: Prof. Lee MacLean
 Office: Loeb D686
 Phone: 613-520-2600 ext. 4129
 E-mail: Lee_MacLean@carleton.ca
 Winter Office hours: T.B.A

Winter Term Course Requirements:

The winter term will account for 50% of your total grade for PSCI 2300A

Participation	10%
Short Paper, 5-7 double-spaced pages	30%

Quiz	10%
Winter term exam (during the formal exam period)	50%

The philosophers we will study in the second half of the course will include Machiavelli, Hobbes, Rousseau and Marx.

Please note: A winter term course outline, complete with a schedule of readings for the second half of the course, will be available the first day of class in the winter term.

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 **November 15 2010 for December examinations and March 11 2011 for April 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).

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, visit our website at 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.