

PSCI 2301 A  
History of Political Thought I  
Tuesdays and Thursdays

**I      General information**

**Instructor:** Ali Elyasi

**On-line Office Hours:** Fridays 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm via zoom or by appointment.

**Email:** AliElyasi@email.carleton.ca

All email communication is to be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts not personal emails.

**II      Course description**

The course asks the question “What is love (*eros*)?” and looks to its role on politics as conceived by the classical thinkers. The course will engage in the political debate between philosophers and poets. In this course we will look at “love of beauty” vs “love of truth” and how they each impact politics and shape one’s view of family, administration, rhetoric, nature, and convention.

The aim of the course is to help students understand one of many important ancient political debates.

**III     Course Format**

The course is asynchronous, lectures will be presented in video format on Brightspace. Each video will be made accessible on the day of the lecture.

**IV     Learning outcomes**

- Students will be able to analyse complicated theoretical texts.
- Students will have a better understanding of classical texts.
- Students will become more familiar with history of political thought.
- Students will be able to combine ideas to create new models of thought.

**V      Texts**

The texts are required and should be available in the bookstore. Other required readings will be made available on Brightspace.

- Aristophanes. *Assembly of Women (Ecclesiazusae)*. Translated by Robert Mayhew. New York: Prometheus, April 1, 1997.

- Plato. *The Symposium*. Translated by Christopher Gill. London: Penguin Classics, April 29, 2003.
- Sophocles. *Theban Plays*. Translated by Peter Meineck and Paul Woodruff. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Co, March 1, 2003.

## VI Evaluation at a glance

- Participation 15%
- Aristophanes Essay 25%
- Sophocles Essay 25%
- Final Essay 35%

## VII Evaluation in detail

- Participation:
  - Watching the lectures and videos provided on Brightspace.
  - Participating:
    - To participate each student is responsible for asking 1 question about the day's readings AND engage with 1 question asked by another student. You can do this by starting a thread and responding to a thread made by another student.
    - Engaging with another question could mean anything from trying to answer it, adding to it, expanding on it, proposing a different interpretation, or facilitating a short discussion.
  - Except for Week 2 May 10<sup>th</sup> where the thread is already open and closes at 11:59 PM on May 10<sup>th</sup>, all other question threads will **open at 11:59 PM the day before the lecture and close at 11:59 PM on the day of the lecture**, which means the thread will remain open for 24 hours.
  - There are no threads for Week 1 May 5<sup>th</sup> and Week 7 June 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - EXAMPLE: Week 2 May 12<sup>th</sup> question thread opens on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM and closes on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM.
- Aristophanes essay (Due May 15<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 PM):
  - One of the two short essays which worth 25% of the total mark.
  - Detailed prompt with directions about the essay will be on Brightspace.
  - The prompt will ask a question which students have to answer in an essay format.
  - Your essay should be double spaced, Times New Roman, font 12, Chicago style citation.
  - The essay should have an introductory paragraph, a concluding paragraph, a body paragraph and should have a bibliography.
  - The essay is **NOT** a research paper but an interpretive essay; hence the students should use the texts **ONLY**.
- Sophocles essay (Due May 28<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 PM):
  - One of the two short essays which worth 25% of the total mark.

- Detailed prompt with directions about the essay will be on Brightspace.
  - The prompt will ask a question which students have to answer in an essay format.
  - Your essay should be double spaced, Times New Roman, font 12, Chicago style citation.
  - The essay should have an introductory paragraph, a concluding paragraph, a body paragraph and should have a bibliography.
  - The essay is **NOT** a research paper but an interpretive essay; hence the students should use the texts **ONLY**.
- Final Essay (Due June 16 by 11:59 PM):
    - The major essay on Plato's *Symposium*.
    - Worth 35% of the overall mark.
    - Detailed prompt with directions about the essay will be on Brightspace.
    - The prompt will ask a question which students have to answer in an essay format.
    - Your essay should be double spaced, Times New Roman, font 12, Chicago style citation.
    - The essay should have an introductory paragraph, a concluding paragraph, body paragraphs and should have a bibliography.
    - The essay is **NOT** a research paper but an interpretive essay; hence the students should use the texts **ONLY**.
  - **Late penalty:** Papers submitted later than the due date will be penalised **4% per day** unless previously arrangements has been made with the instructor. **Papers that are over 7 days later receive an automatic 0.**

## VIII Course schedule

May 5: Introductory remarks

May 10: Aristotle *Politics* Book 1 Ch 1 & 2, book 2 Ch 1-8.

May 12: Aristophanes *Assembly of Women* 1-727

**MAY 15: FIRST SHORT ESSAY IS DUE**

May 17: Aristophanes *Assembly of Women* 728-1180

\*May 19: Sophocles *Oedipus the Tyrant* 1-725

May 24: Sophocles *Oedipus the Tyrant* 726-1530

May 26: Plato *Republic* Book II

**MAY 28: SECOND SHORT ESSAY IS DUE**

May 31: Plato *Republic* Book III

June 2: Plato *Symposium* 172A-185C

June 7: Plato *Symposium* 185D-193E

June 9: Plato *Symposium* 194A-212C

June 14: Plato *Symposium* 212D-223D

June 16: Concluding remarks **(FINAL ESSAY IS DUE!)**

\*May 19 is the last day for registration and course changes for full summer courses.

**\*\*May 20 is the last day to withdraw from early summer and full summer courses with a full fee adjustment. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.**

## **Appendix**

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### **Covid-19 Information**

It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

**Feeling sick?** Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you must follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

**Masks:** On the recommendation of Ottawa Public Health, Carleton will be maintaining the mandatory [COVID-19 Mask Policy](#) until further notice. The policy requires masks to be worn in all university buildings, including offices, classrooms and labs.

**Vaccines:** Further, while proof of vaccination is no longer required as of May 1 to attend campus or in-person activity, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible, and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact [covidinfo@carleton.ca](mailto:covidinfo@carleton.ca).

### **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 accommodation:*** 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](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf).

***Religious accommodation:*** 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](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf).

***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, reach out to your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more information, please visit [carleton.ca/pmc](https://carleton.ca/pmc).

***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 engage in student activities 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>.

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

### **Sexual Violence Policy**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated. 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](https://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support).

### **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 includes 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. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

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.

More information on the University’s Academic Integrity Policy can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

### **Intellectual property**

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).

### **Submission and Return of Term Work**

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the departmental office will not accept assignments submitted in hard copy.

### **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

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 University email accounts and Brightspace.

### **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. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students 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 our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/>.

### **Official Course Outline**

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.