

PSCI 2302A
History of Political Thought II
2:35 p.m. – 5:25 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Josée Bolduc
Office: Loeb B645
Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:00pm-2:00pm, or by appointment
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Course description and objectives

“...I find the study of the political culture of [western] modernity indispensable. And in general, one might say, the finer-grained the understanding of our own path to modernity in the West, the better equipped we become to understand the differences with other cultures.”

Charles Taylor, *Philosophical Arguments*, p. xii.

Through the study of foundational works ranging from the Middle Ages to the present, this course will provide a summary introduction to the development of modern political thought. With the emergence of the modern world, we break from Greek and Christian thought with a view of humans as shapers of their world, as individual and autonomous agents. Consequently, political thought turns to the nature of humanity's potential and to the role of the state to foster it, relying on reason and calculation. With this shift, questions about what is fundamental to human nature arise, and about what a state that is fitting with this new understanding of human nature should look like. The readings covered in this course will give an account of the making of the modern state in parallel with modern identity, and what challenges come to arise out of such view of humanity.

The main objectives of this course will be to introduce students to the study of political thought and to provide tools to help students develop and articulate their own critical and analytical interpretation of the readings.

Required Texts

Available at Haven Books (43 Seneca Street):

Hobbes, Thomas. *Leviathan: With Selected Variants from the Latin Edition of 1668*. Edited by E. M. Curley. Indianapolis: Hackett Pub., 1994.

Locke, John. *Second Treatise of Government*. Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Pub., 1980.

Machiavelli, Niccolò. *The Prince*. Translated by Harvey C. Mansfield. Chicago, ILL.: University of Chicago Press, 1998.

Mill, John Stuart. *On Liberty and Other Essays*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *Basic Political Writings*. Translated by Donald A. Cress. Indianapolis: Hackett Pub., 1987.

Available on reserve at the library:

Taylor, Charles. *Philosophical Arguments*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1997.

Evaluation

Essay 1 (due July 26, 2016): 25%

Essay 2 (due August 16, 2016): 25%

Take-home Exam (to be given out on the last day of class): 40%

Attendance/Participation: 10%

All assignments will receive a numerical mark and letter grade. Only the numerical grade will be posted on CULearn. To receive a passing grade, all requirements of the course must be completed (two essays, one take-home exam, attendance/participation). Only assignments in paper copy will be accepted: electronic submissions are not permitted.

Essays

Each essay will be 4-6 pages in length and each are worth 25% of the final grade. They should be written **double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman, with 1" margins**. The essay topics will be posted on CULearn two weeks before the due date of each essay. The purpose of these assignments is to reflect on the political implications of the assigned texts and to further the student's understanding of the primary texts. Therefore, it is not permitted to use secondary sources. The essay will be evaluated based on the strength of the argument and knowledge of the texts. Proper spelling and use of grammar and style will also factor in the grade. More specific guidelines will be handed out with the essay topics.

Take-Home Exam

The take-home exam will consist of three questions, of which you must answer **two**, for a total of 8-10 pages. It should be written **double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman, with 1" margins**.

The Take-home exam questions will be given at the end of the last class and will be **due in my office (Loeb B645) between noon and 4 pm on August 25** (I will have office hours during that time).

Note: The Political Science drop box is intended to collect late assignments only or if a student has extenuating circumstances and is unable to submit the paper directly to the instructor in class or during office hours. It is emptied **every weekday at 4 p.m.** and all items collected at that time are date-stamped with that day's date. Moreover, any assignment submitted **after 4 p.m.** on a Friday will be collected the following Monday morning, and will be stamped with the Monday's date.

Late Penalty and Extensions

Late essays/exam will receive a 3% reduction for each day it is late. Weekends will count as two days. Extensions will be granted for unexpected emergencies or for medical reasons. Proper documentation will have to be provided. If a student requires an extension, it is her or his responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss the extension request.

Class Schedule

Week 1

July 5 ----- Introduction class – no assigned reading

July 7 ----- Machiavelli – *The Prince*, chapters I-XIII

Week 2

July 12 ----- **Essay questions posted on CULearn**

Machiavelli – *The Prince*, chapters IV-XXVI

July 14 ----- Hobbes – *Leviathan*, Introduction, Part I, chapters 1-6, 9,10,13,14

Week 3

July 19 -----Hobbes – *Leviathan*, Part I, chapters 15-16; Part 2, chapters 17-19, 21, 29

July 21 ----- Locke – *Second Treatise of Government*, chapters II, III, V, VIII, IX, XIX (up to p. 117)

Week 4

July 26 ----- **First essay due at the beginning of class**

Rousseau – “Discourse on the Origin of Inequality” in *The Basic Political Writings*, p. 33-46; 53-60; 65-70; 76-81 “The Social Contract” in *The Basic Political Writings*, Book I p. 141-153

July 28 -----Rousseau – “The Social Contract” in *The Basic Political Writings*, Book I p. 141-153; Book II, chapters I-VII p.153-165; Book III, chapters I-II p. 173-178; chapters IX-XII p. 190-195; Book IV, chapter 1 p. 203-204; Book IV, chapters VII-VIII p. 219-227

Week 5

August 2 ----**Essay questions posted on CULearn**

Mill – “Utilitarianism” in *On Liberty and Other Essays*, chapters 2 and 4; “On Liberty”, Introductory.

August 4 ----Mill – “On Liberty” in *On Liberty and Other Essays*, chapters 3 and 4.

Week 6

August 9 ----Taylor – “The Politics of Recognition” in *Philosophical Arguments*, p. 225-256

August 11---Taylor – “The Politics of Recognition” (continued)

Week 7

August 16 -- Review

Second essay due at the beginning of class

The take-home exam will be distributed at the end of the class

Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and 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 me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

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 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).

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline 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. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

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

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 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, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/> 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.