

PSCI 2302 (A)
History of Political Thought II
Fridays, 9:35 – 11:25pm
(Please confirm location on Carleton Central)

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Contents

Course Description	p.1	Course Schedule	p.3
Evaluation at a Glance	p.2	Key Dates	p.5
Evaluation in Detail	p.2	Course Policies	p.5
Readings	p.3	Academic Accommodations	p.8

Course Description:

Whatever we do in life, political theory has direct bearing on our daily experiences because we are all members of political communities. Words such as liberty, equality, justice, rights, and legitimacy do not merely signify abstract concepts. How these words are interpreted and how they shape our politics will have meaningful impacts on the lives that we live. But these concepts do not have fixed meanings. They are contested and they have been so throughout all recorded human history. Through studying the history of political thought, we can develop our understanding of specific ways that key elements of political life have been understood and debated in past contexts and, through that study, gain insights that might assist us in understanding and critically appraising our own political world.

This course offers an introduction to some of the key texts and debates that contributed to shaping the development of modern Western political thought. The readings that we will study were first published between the mid-17th and the mid-19th century. Though far from exhaustive, they address questions that preoccupied many modern thinkers of this period. These include questions related to political authority: What makes political authority legitimate or illegitimate? Why and to what extent should individuals obey their political leaders? They also include questions to do with human nature and its relationship to politics, about the foundations and justification of rights, about the proper extent of liberty in political society and our reasons for defending it, as well as questions about equality, autonomy, and other central elements of politics and political life.

The primary objectives of this course will be: 1) to introduce students to studying the history of modern political thought; 2) to aid them in developing the critical and analytical skills necessary for developing their own interpretations of particular texts, as well as for formulating their own original contributions to debates in political theory. Special attention will be paid to students' development of their writing skills.

Evaluation at a Glance

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| - Tutorial Participation | 15% |
| - Two-Page Response Paper | 15% (Due Feb.3) |
| - Term Paper | 35% (Due April 10) |
| - Final Examination | 35% |

Evaluation in Detail

Tutorial Participation

Tutorial participation is an integral component of this course. Students will have the opportunity to ask questions of their TA, engage critically with the course readings and, through discourse with their fellow students, develop better and more nuanced understandings of the texts and debates that we will be covering in the course.

Discussion questions will be posted in advance of each tutorial session. Students will be expected to complete the assigned readings and review the discussion questions ahead of every tutorial and to arrive prepared to engage in the tutorial discussions. Attendance in tutorials is not optional.

Two-Page Response Paper

Each student will submit a two-page response paper. The assignment will be based entirely on course readings and will call for no further research. The questions for this assignment will be distributed through Brightspace on January 27. The papers will be due in Brightspace by 11:59pm on **FEBRUARY 3**.

Term Paper

Each student will be required to submit one term paper. The assignment will count for 35% of the student's final grade. Term Papers will be subject to an upper limit of 2000 words.

Students will be given a choice of questions for the assignment. The term paper questions will be posted on Brightspace. The questions will call upon students to engage directly with the texts under study.

The term papers will be due in Brightspace by 11:59pm on **APRIL 10**. Late term papers

will be assessed a penalty (see below).

Final Examination

The final examination will be a take-home exam, held during the regularly scheduled exam period (April 15- 27). Students should not make travel arrangements prior to February 17, when the university will release the April examination schedule.

The exam will be cumulative (i.e. all material covered in the course will be examinable). The final examination will count for 35% of each student's final grade.

Summary

Students are required to:

- 1) Complete assigned readings prior to each lecture
- 2) Attend weekly lectures
- 3) Attend weekly tutorials having completed assigned readings and reviewed discussion questions in advance (15%)
- 4) Submit one two-page response paper (15%)
- 5) Submit one term paper (35%)
- 6) Submit one take-home exam (35%)

Readings:

All of the readings for this course are available in electronic format online and free of charge. Students who wish to purchase physical copies of any or all of the texts are welcome to consult with the professor to discuss available editions.

Course Schedule:

Week 1 (Jan. 13): Introduction to Modern Political Thought

- Introductory discussion of modern political thought
 - o Distribution and discussion of syllabus

Week 2 (Jan. 20): Thomas Hobbes

- Reading: *Leviathan*
 - o Introduction; Chapters 10-11, 13-15
 - o (44 pages of reading)

Week 3 (Jan. 27): Thomas Hobbes

- Reading: *Leviathan*
 - o Chapters 17-19, 21

- (32 pages of reading)

Week 4 (Feb. 3): John Locke

- Readings: *Second Treatise of Government*
 - Chapters 1-7
 - (44 pages of reading)

Week 5 (Feb. 10): John Locke

- Readings: *Second Treatise of Government*
 - Chapters 8-11, 14-15, 19
 - (46 pages of reading)

Week 6 (Feb. 17): Jean-Jacques Rousseau

- Reading: *On the Social Contract*
 - Books I-II
 - (35 pages of reading)

Week 7 (Feb. 24): No Lecture (Winter Break)

Week 8 (March 3): Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Olympe de Gouges

- Reading:
 - Rousseau, *On the Social Contract*
 - Book III: chs.1-3, 10-18
 - Book IV: chs.1-2, 7-8
 - Olympe de Gouges, *Declaration of the Rights of Woman and of the Female Citizen*
 - (41 pages of reading)

Week 9 (March 10): Edmund Burke

- Reading: *Reflections on the Revolution in France*
 - Excerpt
 - (46 pages of reading)

Week 10 (March 17): Mary Wollstonecraft

- Reading: *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*
 - Dedicace, Preface, Introduction, Chapter 2
 - (31 pages of reading)

Week 11 (March 24): Harriet Taylor and John Stuart Mill

- Readings:
 - o Taylor, “Enfranchisement of Women” (Excerpts)
 - o Mill, *Utilitarianism* (Part 2)
 - o Mill, *On Liberty* (Parts 1-2)
 - o (59 pages of reading)

Week 12 (March 31): John Stuart Mill

- Reading: *On Liberty*
 - o Parts 3-4
 - o (40 pages of reading)

Week 13 (April 12): Review and Concluding Discussion

Key Dates: Summary

Date	Topic	Assignment
January 13	Intro to the Course	
January 20	Thomas Hobbes	
January 27	Thomas Hobbes	Two-Page Response Paper questions distributed
February 3	John Locke	Two-Page Response Paper Due
February 10	John Locke	
February 17	Jean-Jacques Rousseau	
February 24	No Class: Winter Break	
March 3	Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Olympe de Gouges	
March 10	Edmund Burke	
March 17	Mary Wollstonecraft	
March 24	Harriet Taylor and John Stuart Mill	
March 31	John Stuart Mill	
April 12	Review and Concluding Discussion	
April 10		Term Paper Due

Course Policies

Communication: When writing to the professor, no matter the purpose of your communication, please put PSCI2302 in the subject line of your email.

Copyright: Lectures and course materials (including any PowerPoint presentations, videos, or similar materials) are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may not allow others to reproduce, distribute, or make available lecture notes and/or course materials, whether publicly or for commercial purposes, without the professor's express written consent.

Citations and Bibliography

All written assignments must include a full list of sources used. In addition, students must indicate all references to the texts in footnotes or in-text citations. You are free to use the citation style of your choice (APA, Chicago, etc.), so long as you employ your chosen style consistently and correctly throughout your assignment. For more details on how to provide proper citations, please consult the MacOdrum Library website:

<https://library.carleton.ca/help/citing-your-sources>

As a university student, you are a member of a community of scholars in this class, at Carleton University and, more generally, with others from around the world. A core ethical principle that undergirds all of these scholarly communities is the responsibility of every scholar give credit to others for the work that they have produced and to refrain from taking credit for work that is not their own. This ethical principle is very democratic. It applies equally to the internationally-renowned scholar whose list of published works runs for many pages and to the first-year university student, fresh out of high school, who has yet to publish their first piece of writing.

If you have any questions at all about your obligations as a member of these scholarly communities, please consult with your professor. Every student should familiarize themselves with Carleton University's Academic Integrity Policy

(<https://carleton.ca/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/Academic-Integrity-Policy-2021.pdf>).

For examples of what constitutes plagiarism and for details of possible consequences for students found to have violated the Academic Integrity Policy, please see below (p.10) and consult the University's page on academic integrity:

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

Late Penalties & Extensions

Written assignments (two-page response papers and term papers) submitted after the due date will be subject to a penalty of 4% per day (including Saturdays and Sundays). The professor will accept late submissions up to seven days past the deadline. Assignments that are more than seven days late will not be accepted except in cases where the student has received an extension from the professor.

Extensions will be granted at the discretion of the professor and only for serious medical reasons or for other emergency personal circumstances. Please note that having assignments and/or exams due in other courses will not be considered sufficient grounds to justify an extension in this course. Requests for extensions submitted after the due date will usually not be considered.

If you are ill or have any other legitimate reason for requesting an extension, it is your responsibility to contact the professor as early as possible. Do not assume that you will receive an extension until one has been granted by the professor. Students should be prepared to provide proper documentation to support their request for an extension.

At any point, if you are experiencing mental health-related challenges, please consider availing yourself of the resources that Carleton University offers:

<https://carleton.ca/wellness/>

Grade Appeals

Grading written assignments is not an exact science. If you feel that an assigned grade does not fairly reflect the quality of your work, the professor will be happy to discuss your assignment and the grade with you. If you would like to have your grade reviewed, you must submit a one-page justification for your position that responds directly to the comments and grade that you received. You must also indicate the grade that you believe your assignment deserved. Submit your one-page justification to the professor no later than one week after receiving your grade. A request for review can result in the professor raising or lowering your original grade.

Appendix

Covid-19 Pandemic Measures

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 should follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

Masks: Masks are no longer mandatory in university buildings and facilities. However, we continue to recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. We are aware that personal preferences regarding optional mask use will vary greatly, and we ask that we all show consideration and care for each other during this transition.

Vaccines: While proof of vaccination is no longer required to access campus or participate in in-person Carleton activities, 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.

Student Mental Health

As a university student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus):

<https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

Carleton Resources:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

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 accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).

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 [click here](#).

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 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 details, [click here](#).

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.

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.

Plagiarism

Carleton's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) 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, websites, 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. 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.
