

PSCI 2302 (B)
History of Political Thought II
Mondays, 8:35 – 10:25pm
(Please confirm location on Carleton Central)

Instructor: Marc Hanvelt
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Office Hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10:25-11:35, or by appointment
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Course Description:

This course offers an introduction to some of the key texts and debates that shaped the development of modern Western political thought. The readings for this term were all first published between the mid-17th and the mid-19th century. Though far from exhaustive, they address some of the key debates that preoccupied many modern thinkers of this period. Particularly noteworthy amongst these debates were those concerning questions of political authority: What makes political authority legitimate or illegitimate? Why and to what extent should individuals obey their political leaders? In their various answers to these questions, the authors we will study this term addressed further questions to do with human nature and its relationship to politics, the foundations and justification of rights, the meaning of liberty and its compatibility with life in political society, as well as other questions about equality, autonomy, commerce, and other central features of politics. Over the course of the term, we will distinguish three particular modern approaches to understanding politics. The first is found in the social contract tradition. The second emphasizes the absence of exploitation as the primary measure of a political society's legitimacy. The third prioritizes the maximization of utility.

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 helping students develop their writing skills.

Required Texts:

Available at Haven Books (43 Seneca Street)

- ♦ Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*. Edited by Edwin Curley (Indianapolis, IN.: Hackett, 1994)

- ♦ John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*. Edited by C.B. Macpherson (Indianapolis, IN.: Hackett, 1980)
- ♦ Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Basic Political Writings*. Second Edition. Edited by Donald A. Cress (Indianapolis, IN.: Hackett, 2011)
- ♦ Karl Marx, *Selected Writings*. Edited by Lawrence H. Simon (Indianapolis, IN.: Hackett, 1994)
- ♦ John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*. Edited by Elizabeth Rapaport (Indianapolis, IN.: Hackett, 1978)

cuLearn:

Important course announcements and course materials (syllabus, discussion questions for tutorials, essay questions) will be posted on cuLearn. Please ensure that you have access to cuLearn and consult it regularly.

Email Contact:

When sending me emails, please ensure that you use your Carleton University account. Whatever your reason for contacting me, please enter “PSCI2302” in the subject line of your email. I try to ensure a maximum twenty-four hour turn around on emails (not counting weekends or holidays). If you have not received an answer from me within twenty-four hours of sending your email, please do not wait any longer before re-sending your message.

Course Requirements and Grading Scheme:

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|---------------------------|-----|----------------------|
| ♦ Tutorial Participation | 10% | |
| ♦ One-Page Response Paper | 5% | (Due Jan.27) |
| ♦ Essay #1 | 25% | (Due Feb. 24) |
| ♦ Essay #2 | 25% | (Due April 6) |
| ♦ Final Examination | 35% | |

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 that we will be covering in the course.

Each student’s tutorial participation grade (worth 10% of their final grade) will be based on the quality (not necessarily the quantity) of his or her participation in the tutorial discussions. In order to earn a top grade for participation, a student must contribute positively to the learning atmosphere of his or her tutorial group. Among other requirements, this entails regular attendance, participation that is respectful of other

students and of the TA, and demonstration that the student has done the week's reading, thought critically about it in advance of the tutorial session, and arrived prepared to pose questions and to critically discuss the reading with his or her fellow students.

One-Page Response Paper

Each student will submit a one-page response paper. The question for this assignment will be distributed in class and via cuLearn on January 20. The papers will be due at the beginning of lecture on **January 27**.

Essays

Each student will be required to submit two short essays during the term. Each will count for 30% of the student's final grade. Essays will be subject to an upper page limit of 6 double-spaced pages (12 point font, margins of at least ¾ inch).

Students will be given a choice of questions for each essay. The essay questions will be posted on cuLearn. The questions will call upon students to engage directly with the texts under study.

The first essay will be due at the beginning of lecture on **FEBRUARY 24**. The second essay will be due at the beginning of lecture on **April 6**. Students must submit physical copies of their essays. **EMAIL SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Late essays will be assessed a penalty (see below).

Late Penalties:

Essays submitted after the due date will be subject to a penalty of 3% per day (including Saturdays and Sundays). Essays submitted on the due date but after the beginning of lecture will be considered late and will be assessed a penalty of 1.5%.

Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4:00 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the professor.

Extensions will be granted at the discretion of the professor and only for serious and documented medical reasons or for other emergency personal circumstances. Requests for extensions submitted after the due date will usually not be considered. It is the students' responsibility to manage their time effectively.

Final Examination

The final examination will be held during the regularly scheduled exam period (April 13-25). Students should not make travel arrangements prior to February 14, 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 30% of each student's final grade.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence that involves presenting another person's ideas, arguments, or words as one's own either through deliberate fraud or on account of inaccurate or improper documentation. The penalties for plagiarism are very severe.

Students are strongly encouraged to consult with their professor if they have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism.

Academic Support:

As your professor, I hold regular office hours and, additionally, am available to meet by appointment. I am always happy to offer guidance and to support students in developing their writing and other academic skills.

Additionally, Carleton University offers a range of excellent services for students seeking academic support:

- For research, computer or learning support services, please see Carleton Learning Support Services (<http://carleton.ca/lss/>).
- For help with academic writing and related issues, please see Writing Services (<https://carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>).

Course Schedule:

Week 1 (Jan. 6): Introduction to Modern Political Thought

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

Week 2 (Jan. 13): Hobbes, *Leviathan*

- Readings: Introduction; Chapters 4-6, 10-11, 13-15

Week 3 (Jan. 20): Hobbes, *Leviathan*

- Readings: Chapters 17-19, 21, 26, 28-29

Week 4 (Jan. 27): Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*

- Readings: Chapters 1-7
- **One-Page Response Paper Due**

Week 5 (Feb. 3): Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*

- Readings: Chapters 8-11, 13-15, 18-19

Week 6 (Feb. 10): Writing Workshop

- Reading: George Orwell, "Politics and the English Language" (available on cuLearn)

Week 7 (Feb. 17): No Lecture (Winter Break)

Week 8 (Feb. 24): Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin and Foundations of Inequality Among Men* and *On the Social Contract*

- Readings:
 - o *Discourse on the Origin and Foundations of Inequality Among Men* (Preface; Part 1)
 - o *On the Social Contract* (Book I)
- **First Essay Due**

Week 9 (March 2): Rousseau, *On the Social Contract*

- Readings:
 - o Book II
 - o Book III: chs.1-3, 10-18
 - o Book IV: chs.1-2, 7-8

Week 10 (March 9): Marx and Engels, Early Philosophical Writings

- Readings:
 - o "On the Jewish Question" (pages 2-21 only)
 - o "Toward a Critique of Hegel's *Philosophy of Right*: Introduction"
 - o "Alienated Labour"
 - o "Theses on Feuerbach"

Week 11 (March 16): Marx and Engels, Writing on Historical Materialism

- Readings:
 - o *The German Ideology*, Part 1 (selections)
 - o *Manifesto of the Communist Party*;

Week 12 (March 23): Mill, *Utilitarianism* and *On Liberty*

- Readings:
 - o *Utilitarianism*, Part 2 (available on cuLearn)
 - o *On Liberty* (Parts 1-2)

Week 13 (March 30): Mill, *On Liberty*

- Readings: *On Liberty* (Parts 3-4)

Week 14 (April 6): Review

- Second Essay Due

Academic Accommodations

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 obligation

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

Religious obligation

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

Academic 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, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is 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

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 compete or perform 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

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. 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/> and our website <https://carletonpss.com/>, or stop by our office in Loeb D688!"

Official Course Outline

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