

PSCI 2302 (B)
History of Political Thought II
Tuesdays 2:35 – 4:25pm
(Please confirm location on Carleton Central)

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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 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 February 2) |
| - 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 mandatory.

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 24. The papers will be due in Brightspace by 11:59pm on **FEBRUARY 2**.

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 held during the regularly scheduled exam period (April 13-25). Students should not make travel arrangements prior to February 16, 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) Write one final 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. 9): Introduction to the Course

- NOTE: This lecture will be pre-recorded and available on Brightspace. All other lectures in this course will be delivered in person.

Week 2 (Jan. 16): Thomas Hobbes

- Reading: *Leviathan*

- Introduction; Chapters 10-11, 13-15
- (44 pages of reading)

Week 3 (Jan. 23): Thomas Hobbes

- Reading: *Leviathan*
 - Chapters 17-19, 21
 - (32 pages of reading)

Week 4 (Jan. 30): Writing Workshop

- Reading: George Orwell, "Politics and the English Language"
 - Available online: <https://www.orwellfoundation.com/the-orwell-foundation/orwell/essays-and-other-works/politics-and-the-english-language/>

Week 5 (Feb. 6): John Locke

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

Week 6 (Feb. 13): John Locke

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

Week 7 (Feb. 20): No Lecture (Winter Break)

Week 8 (Feb. 27): Jean-Jacques Rousseau

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

Week 9 (March 5): 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 10 (March 12): Edmund Burke

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

Week 11 (March 19): Mary Wollstonecraft

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

Week 12 (March 26): Harriet Taylor and John Stuart Mill

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

Week 13 (April 2): John Stuart Mill

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

Week 14 (April 9): Review and Concluding Discussion

Key Dates: Summary

Date	Topic	Assignment
January 9	Intro to the Course	
January 16	Thomas Hobbes	
January 23	Thomas Hobbes	Two-Page Response Paper questions distributed on January 24

January 30	Research and Writing Workshop	
February 2		Two-Page Response Paper Due
February 6	John Locke	
February 13	John Locke	
February 20	No Class: Winter Break	
February 27	Jean-Jacques Rousseau	
March 5	Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Olympe de Gouges	
March 12	Edmund Burke	
March 19	Mary Wollstonecraft	
March 26	Harriet Taylor and John Stuart Mill	
April 2	John Stuart Mill	
April 9	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

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:

Academic consideration for medical or other extenuating circumstances:

Please contact your instructor if you are experiencing circumstances that (a) are beyond your control, (b) have a significant impact your capacity to meet your academic obligations, and (c) could not have reasonably been prevented. Decisions on academic consideration are in your instructor's discretion; they will be guided by the course learning outcomes and the principle of good faith.

Please see [here](#) for more details. For considerations relating to course work, your instructor may request that you complete the [Self-Declaration form](#). To apply for a deferral of your final exam, you must submit the Self-Declaration form to the Registrar's Office no later than three days after the scheduled examination or take-home due date.

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 to the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom. Reasonable accommodation will 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. For more information, please [click here](#).

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.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is an essential element of a productive and successful career as a student. Carleton's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) addresses academic integrity violations, including plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, misrepresentation, impersonation, withholding of records, obstruction/interference, disruption of instruction or examinations, improper access to and/or dissemination of information, or violation of test and examination rules. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the university's academic integrity rules.

Plagiarism

The 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.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

Unless explicitly permitted by the instructor in a particular course, any use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools to produce assessed content (e.g., text, code, equations, image, summary, video, etc.) is considered a violation of academic integrity standards.

Procedures in Cases of Suspected Violations

Violations of the Academic Integrity Policy are serious offences which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. When an instructor suspects a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy, the Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the assignment/exam in question 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.
