

Carleton University
Winter 2018
Department of Political Science

PSCI 2302 B
History of Political Thought

Monday 14:35 – 16:25

Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Hans-Martin Jaeger
Office: D691 Loeb
Office Hours: Wednesday 14:45 – 16:45
Thursday 12:00 – 14:00
(or by appointment)
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Course Description and Objectives

This course continues the introduction to the Western tradition of political thought begun in PSCI 2301 by examining a number of emblematic early modern and modern texts. In doing so, it addresses some fundamental questions about politics and political thought. These questions include: What is the purpose of politics and of political theory? What is the relationship between human nature and politics? Why do people form political communities and what is the best way to organize these? How should the relationship of individuals and groups to the community be regulated? What is the proper role of government and what should be its limits? What are its sources and problems of legitimacy? How does politics relate to other spheres of modern society like the economy or religion, and how does this differ from older societies? What (if any) are the legacies of (Judeo-Christian) theology in modern political thought? How does European colonialism manifest itself in modern political thought? Answers to these questions have shaped Western and global politics and society (and how we think about these) in important ways. We will consider these questions and different answers to them both in their respective historical contexts and in relation to our own time: to what extent do historically and contextually specific accounts in early modern and modern political thought still speak to issues and dynamics in contemporary politics and society?

Students should leave the course with an understanding and critical appreciation of some of the major contributions, legacies, and biases of Western political thought. The course is intended to hone students' abilities to identify central ideas and arguments in unfamiliar texts (read in the original or translations from the original), and to analyze, interpret and critically evaluate these ideas and arguments in reading, speech, and writing.

Readings

The following books contain the required readings for this course and have been ordered at the Carleton University Bookstore:

- Niccolò Machiavelli, *Selected Political Writings* (Hackett).
- Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan* (Oxford World's Classics).
- John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government* (Hackett)
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Basic Political Writings* (Hackett).
- John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty* (Hackett).
- Karl Marx, *Selected Writings* (Hackett).

Course Requirements and Evaluation

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Percentage of final grade</u>	<u>Due date</u>
Attendance and Tutorial Participation	15%	Weekly
Quiz	5%	February 5
First Take-home Essay	25%	February 26
Second Take-home Essay	25%	April 9
Final Exam	30%	April 14-26 (see Carleton Exam Schedule)

As per early feedback guidelines, the Quiz will be returned by February 17.

Attendance and Tutorial Participation (15%). Attendance is required at lectures and tutorials. To benefit from the course, it is essential that you read the assigned texts prior to lectures and

tutorial meetings. Your tutorial participation will be evaluated based on the quality and frequency of your oral contributions, with greater weight given to quality. Quality contributions (questions, comments) demonstrate that you have read the assigned materials; that you can analytically, interpretatively, and critically reflect and comment on central ideas of the readings and lectures; and that you can make connections between these ideas and other themes or readings in the course.

Quiz (5%). Students will take a short quiz **at the beginning of class on February 5**. The quiz will consist of 12-15 short questions including multiple-choice questions, identifications of quotations, true-false questions, one-to-three word answers, etc. There will be no make-up quiz except in case of a documented family or medical emergency.

Two Take-home Essays (25% each). Each student is required to write two short take-home essays (1500-1800 words, 12-point font, double-spaced) in response to questions posted on CuLearn on February 12 and March 26. The essays are **due in class as hard copies on February 26 and April 9** (respectively). There will be no extensions of the deadlines, except in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. Late submissions will be accepted but penalized by one third of a letter grade per day (e.g. from B+ to B) for up to seven calendar days. Late essays must be submitted to the drop-box of the Political Science Department (B640 Loeb). Late essays submitted before 4 p.m. will be stamped with the date of that day; late essays submitted after 4 p.m. will be stamped with the date of the following business day.

Evaluation of the essays is based on (in declining order of importance):

- (a) the merits (persuasiveness, logic, and clarity) of your argument;
- (b) your general understanding of the subject matter under discussion;
- (c) the appropriateness and relevance of citations of class readings
(including a consistent citation style);
- (d) correct English grammar, spelling, and usage.

It is not necessary to draw on materials other than the assigned class readings. The essays must include page references to these readings. If you use editions of the texts other than those from the publishers listed under Readings above, you must provide full bibliographical information. In the eventuality that other sources (books, articles, web material, etc.) are consulted, these must also be cited and included in the bibliography. More specific writing guidelines will be given with the essay assignments.

Final Exam (30%). Students will write a final exam during the official exam period, April 14-26. The final exam will have two parts. Part I will consist of 15-20 short questions similar in style to those on the Quiz and covering the material since the Quiz. In part II, you will be asked

Mar. 19 Mill, *On Liberty*, Chs. I-III.

Mar. 26 Mill, *On Liberty*, Chs. III-V.

***** *Essay topics posted on WebCT* *****

Apr. 2 Marx, Preface to *A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy*;
Marx and Engels, *The German Ideology*, Part I (selections);
The Communist Manifesto, Introduction, Pt. I.

Apr. 9 Marx and Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*, Pts. II and IV;
Marx, *Capital*, Volume I, Chapter 1: The Commodity.

***** *Second Take-home Essay due in class* *****

Academic Support Services at Carleton

Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): CSAS offers students a variety of free services, including skill development workshops, one-on-one support, writing services, and peer assisted study sessions. To learn more about these services, visit CSAS on the 4th floor of the MacOdrum library, contact them by phone at 613-520-3822, or visit them online at <https://carleton.ca/csas/>.

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.