

PSCI 3312 (A)
Enlightenment Political Thought
Mondays, 8:35 – 11:25pm
(Please confirm location on Carleton Central)

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Course Description

We often hear the refrain that liberal democratic citizens today are children of the Enlightenment. But what, precisely, was “the Enlightenment” and what might it mean to consider ourselves its children? On these questions, no general agreement exists. Some understand the Enlightenment in positive terms as an eighteenth-century trans-national philosophical movement defined by its commitments to reason, toleration, and to robust conceptions of equality and rights. Others view the Enlightenment in similarly trans-national and philosophical terms, but as a predominantly negative, homogenizing, Eurocentric movement. Some scholars resist singular conceptions of the Enlightenment, instead emphasising distinct national varieties of Enlightenment or focusing on identifying key debates within the Enlightenment and on illuminating the historical contexts that impacted their development.

In this course, we will approach Enlightenment political thought by combining historical and philosophical perspectives with an aim to developing greater appreciation and critical understanding of the extraordinary intellectual developments in eighteenth-century Scotland that we now call the Scottish Enlightenment. Over the course of a relatively short period of time, this small country that entered the eighteenth century contending with significant economic hardships, produced a startling array of philosophers, historians, scientists, and other authors whom we recognize today as pioneers in fields as diverse as philosophy, geology, history, engineering, mathematics, medicine, economics,

political theory, chemistry, and sociology. Many of these individuals knew each other well. Some were close friends.

Over the course of the term, we will read works by David Hume, Adam Smith, and Adam Ferguson, three authors who are particularly notable for how they thought and wrote about politics in an increasingly commercial world, a new context that raised questions about the continued relevance and adequacy of prevailing conceptions of political community, commerce, governance, despotism, and other central elements of social and political life. In studying these three authors, students will gain insights into some distinctive elements of Scottish Enlightenment political thought while also gaining familiarity with some of the important debates that characterized the period.

The course will be delivered in person. Each meeting of the course will include a lecture and a less formal discussion, based in part on questions that students in the class will submit in advance (see below on p.3 under “Participation”)

The principal learning objectives for the course are:

- 1) For students to develop knowledge and understanding of some principal texts and contexts of the Scottish Enlightenment.
- 2) For students to critically examine the texts under study.
- 3) For students to identify and critically examine key concepts and key debates in Scottish Enlightenment political thought.
- 4) For students to distinguish elements of Scottish Enlightenment political thought from other theories of politics with which they are already familiar.
- 5) For students to develop their critical and analytical skills through written assignments and in-class discussions.

Evaluation at a Glance

- Essay (max. 750 words)	15%	(Due October 21)
- Term Paper (max. 3500 words)	35%	(Due December 9)
- Take-Home Exam	35%	(During December Exam Period)
- Participation	15%	

Evaluation in Detail

Essay

Each student will write one short essay (maximum 750 words in length). The essays will be due in Brightspace by 11:59pm on October 21. Students will answer one question related to the writings of Hume. No supplementary research will be required for these essays. The assignment will be distributed through Brightspace.

Term Paper

Each student will submit one term paper (maximum 3500 words in length). The papers will be due in Brightspace by 11:59pm on December 9. This assignment will call for research beyond the assigned course readings. These assignments will be distributed through Brightspace and will be discussed in greater detail in class.

Take-Home Exam

Each student will write one take-home exam during the University's formally scheduled December exam period. The exam will be cumulative and comprised of essay questions. The content, form, and specific timing of the exam will be discussed in greater detail during the term.

Participation

In advance of the meetings of the class in weeks 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14, each student will have the opportunity to submit one discussion question through Brightspace. The questions will be based on the readings for that week and will structure parts of the discussion in class. Students will receive full credit for every question that they submit (maximum one per assigned week). Participation grades in the course will be based on each student's submitted discussion questions and their attendance, with the two components weighted equally. These assignments will be discussed in detail in class on Sept.12.

Summary

Students are required to:

- 1) Complete assigned readings prior to each class
- 2) Attend weekly meetings of the class and submit one discussion question in advance of assigned weeks (15%)
- 3) Submit one short essay (15%)
- 4) Submit one term paper (35%)
- 5) Submit one take-home exam (35%)

Readings:

All of the readings for this course are available in electronic format online and free of charge.

Works by David Hume are available through the Past Masters database (accessible through the MacOdrum Library website). Some are also available on the website www.davidhume.org. Works by Adam Smith are available through Past Masters. Because we will be reading Adam Ferguson's *An Essay on the History of Civil Society* in its entirety, the edition that we will use is available to you for free in electronic format through ARES or, if you would prefer to read a print copy, for purchase at the University Bookstore.

For students who would prefer to purchase print copies of other texts that we will read this term, the following is a list of recommended editions. If you have any questions about particular editions, please ask the professor.

Recommended Print Editions of the Texts:

- David Hume. *Essays, Moral, Political, and Literary*. Edited by Eugene F. Miller (Indianapolis, IN.: Liberty Fund, 1987).
- David Hume. *The History of England from the Invasion of Julius Caesar to The Revolution in 1688*. 6 volumes. Foreward by William B. Todd (Indianapolis, IN.: Liberty Fund, 1983).
- Adam Ferguson. *An Essay on the History of Civil Society*. Edited by Fania Oz-Salzberger (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007).
- Adam Smith. *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*. Edited by D.D. Raphael and A.L. Macfie (Liberty Fund: Indianapolis, 1982).
- Adam Smith. *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, 2 vols. Edited by R.H. Campbell and A.S. Skinner (Liberty Fund: Indianapolis, 1981).

Course Schedule

Week 1 (Sept. 12): Introduction to the Course

Week 2 (Sept. 19): What was the Scottish Enlightenment?

- Readings:
 - o Roger L. Emerson and Mark G. Spencer, “Several Contexts of the Scottish Enlightenment” in *The Cambridge Companion to the Scottish Enlightenment*, 2nd Ed., edited by Alexander Broadie and Craig Smith (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019): 9-32.
 - o David Daiches, “The Scottish Enlightenment” in *The Scottish Enlightenment 1730-1790: A Hotbed of Genius*, edited by David Daiches, Peter Jones, and Jean Jones (Edinburgh: The Saltire Society, 1996): 1-41.
 - o Available online: ARES (in Brightspace)

Week 3 (Sept. 26): David Hume

- Readings: David Hume, *Essays Moral, Political, and Literary*

- “That Politics may be Reduced to a Science”; “Of the First Principles of Government”; “Of the Origin of Government”; “Of Civil Liberty”; “Of the Original Contract”; “Of Passive Obedience”; “Of the Coalition of Parties”
- Available online: Past Masters database (MacOdrum library website) or at www.davidhume.org

Week 4 (Oct. 3): David Hume

- Readings: David Hume, *Essays Moral, Political, and Literary*
 - “Of the Rise and Progress of the Arts and Sciences”; “Of Commerce”; “Of Refinement in the Arts”
- Available online: Past Masters database (MacOdrum library website) or at www.davidhume.org

Week 5 (Oct. 10): Statutory Holiday. University Closed.

- NO CLASS

Week 6 (Oct. 17): David Hume

- Readings: David Hume, *The History of England*
 - The trial and execution of Charles I
 - Vol. V, Chapter LIX, pp. 532-48 (Begin at “The more to quiet the minds of men...”)
 - Discussion of manners, arts and science during the reign of James II
 - Vol. VI, Chapter LXXI, pp. 530-45
 - Appendix to the Reign of Elizabeth I
 - Vol. IV, Appendix III, pp. 354-86
 - Hume’s final words on the history of England
 - Vol. II, Chapter XXIII, pp. 518-25
- Available online: Past Masters database (MacOdrum library website)
- **Essay Due October 21**

Week 7 (Oct. 24): Fall Break

- NO CLASS

Week 8: (Oct. 31): Adam Ferguson

- Readings: Adam Ferguson, *An Essay on the History of Civil Society*

- Parts I and II

Week 9 (Nov. 7): Adam Ferguson

- Readings: Adam Ferguson, *An Essay on the History of Civil Society*
 - Parts III and IV

Week 10 (Nov. 14): Adam Ferguson

- Readings: Adam Ferguson, *An Essay on the History of Civil Society*
 - Parts V and VI

Week 11 (Nov. 21): Adam Smith

- Readings: Adam Smith, *Theory of Moral Sentiments*
 - I.i; I.iii; II.ii; IV (Part I, Sections 1 and 3; Part II, Section 2; Part IV)
 - Available online: Past Masters database (MacOdrum library website)

Week 12 (Nov. 28): Adam Smith

- Readings: Adam Smith, *Wealth of Nations*
 - Introduction; I.i-ii; I.viii; II.iii (Introduction; Book I, Chapters 1-2 and 8; Book II, Chapter 3)
 - Available online: Past Masters database (MacOdrum library website)

Week 13 (Dec. 5): Adam Smith

- Readings: Adam Smith, *Wealth of Nations*
 - III.i; III.iv; IV.ii; IV.iii.c; IV.ix.48-52; V.i.f.48-61; V.i.g.3-16; V.i.i.1-6. (Book III, Chapters 1 and 4; Book IV, Chapter 2; Book IV, Chapter 3, Part 2; Book IV, Chapter 9, Paragraphs 48-52; Book V, Chapter 1, Part 3, Article 2, Paragraphs 48-61; Part V, Chapter 1, Part 3, Article 3, Paragraphs 3-16; Part V, Chapter 1, Conclusion of the Chapter.)
 - Available online: Past Masters database (MacOdrum library website)

Week 14 (Dec. 9): Review and Concluding Discussion

- TERM PAPERS DUE

Key Dates: Summary

Date	Topic	Assignment
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September 12	Intro to the Course	
September 19	What was the Scottish Enlightenment?	
September 26	Hume: <i>Essays</i>	
October 3	Hume: <i>Essays</i>	
October 10	No Class: University Closed	
October 17	Hume: <i>History of England</i>	
October 21		Essay Due
October 24	No Class: Fall Break	
October 31	Ferguson: <i>Essay on the History of Civil Society</i> (I & II)	
November 7	Ferguson: <i>Essay on the History of Civil Society</i> (III & IV)	
November 14	Ferguson: <i>Essay on the History of Civil Society</i> (V & VI)	
November 21	Smith: <i>Theory of Moral Sentiments</i>	
November 28	Smith: <i>Wealth of Nations</i>	
December 5	Smith: <i>Wealth of Nations</i>	
December 12	Review and Concluding Discussion	Term Paper Due
December – Exam Period		Take-home exam

Course Policies

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 (essays 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 together with your original

assignment 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.
