

**PSCI 3312 (A)**  
**Enlightenment Political Thought**  
Thursdays, 11:35 – 2:25pm  
(Please confirm location on Carleton Central)

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**Course Description**

Over the course of the eighteenth century, something extraordinary happened in Scotland. This small and poor country 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. Today, we commonly term the intellectual developments in eighteenth-century Scotland the Scottish Enlightenment.

In this course, we will combine historical and philosophical perspectives with an aim to developing greater appreciation and critical understanding of the Scottish Enlightenment. To this end, we will read works by David Hume, Adam Ferguson, and Adam Smith, 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 marked 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 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**

- Question Assessment	10%	<b>(Due October 4)</b>
- Essay (max. 3000 words)	35%	<b>(Due November 22)</b>
- Final Exam	35%	<b>(During December Exam Period)</b>
- Participation	20%	

### **Evaluation in Detail**

#### Question Assessment: 10%

Students will submit a brief assessment of the discussion question that they submitted in week 3, 4, or 5 (see below under “Participation” for an explanation of the discussion questions). The assignment will be due in Brightspace by 11:59pm on October 4.

Students will choose which of their three discussions questions to assess. In roughly one page, they will describe the value of their question (e.g. What is at stake in this question? Why is it an important or significant question? What does it help us to make sense of or to understand? Why is it important to make sense of or understand whatever that is? Etc.) The assignment will be discussed in greater detail in class.

#### Essay: 35%

Each student will write one essay (maximum 3000 words in length). The essays will be due in Brightspace by 11:59pm on November 22. This assignment will call for research beyond the assigned course readings. This assignment will be distributed through Brightspace and will be discussed in greater detail in class.

#### Final Exam: 35%

Each student will write one Final Exam during the University's formally scheduled December exam period (Dec. 9-21). The University will release the exam schedule on October 11. Students are advised to refrain from making holiday travel plans until after that date.

The Final Exam will be cumulative and comprised of essay questions. The content and form of the exam will be discussed in greater detail during the term.

### Participation: 20%

Attendance will be taken in every class except for weeks 1 and 14. Students will receive one mark for every class they attend.

In advance of the meetings of the class in weeks 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, each student will have the opportunity to submit one discussion question through Brightspace. The questions must be based on the readings for that week. They will structure part of the discussion in class.

Students will receive one mark for every discussion question that they submit, conditional upon them attending the corresponding class (maximum one question per assigned week).

Participation grades in the course will be calculated out of 20 marks (9 discussion questions and attendance in 11 classes). Participation grades will be discussed in detail in class on Sept.5.

### 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 (20%)
- 3) Submit one written question assessment (10%)
- 4) Submit one essay (35%)
- 5) Write one final 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) and on the website [www.davidhume.org](http://www.davidhume.org). Works by Adam Smith are available through Past Masters. Adam Ferguson's *An Essay on the*

*History of Civil Society* is available through ARES. If you would prefer to read this work in print, some copies will also be available 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. Forward 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. 5): Introduction to the Course**

### **Week 2 (Sept. 12): 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*, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. 19): David Hume**

- Readings: David Hume, *Essays Moral, Political, and Literary*
  - o “That Politics may be Reduced to a Science”; “Of the First Principles of Government”; “Of the Origin of Government”; “Of Parties in General”; “Of the Original Contract”; “Of Passive Obedience”; “Of the Coalition of Parties”
  - o Available online: Past Masters database (MacOdrum library website) or at [www.davidhume.org](http://www.davidhume.org)

#### **Week 4 (Sept. 26): David Hume**

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

#### **Week 5 (Oct. 3): David Hume**

- Readings: David Hume, *The History of England*
  - o The trial and execution of Charles I
    - Vol. V, Chapter LIX, pp. 532-48 (Begin at “The more to quiet the minds of men...)
  - o Discussion of manners, arts and science during the reign of James II
    - Vol. VI, Chapter LXXI, pp. 530-45
  - o Appendix to the Reign of Elizabeth I
    - Vol. IV, Appendix III, pp. 354-86
  - o Hume’s final words on the history of England
    - Vol. II, Chapter XXIII, pp. 518-25
  - o Available online: Past Masters database (MacOdrum library website)
- **Question Assessment Due Oct. 4**

#### **Week 6 (Oct. 10): Research and Writing Workshop**

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

#### **Week 7 (Oct. 17): Adam Ferguson**

- Readings: Adam Ferguson, *An Essay on the History of Civil Society*
  - o Parts I and II (excluding sections 2, 5, and 7 of Part I)
  - o Available online: ARES

**Week 8: (Oct. 24): Fall Break**

- NO CLASS

**Week 9 (Oct. 31): Adam Ferguson**

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

**Week 10 (Nov. 7): Adam Ferguson**

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

**Week 11 (Nov. 14): Adam Smith**

- Note: This will be an asynchronous video lecture, posted to Brightspace. There will be no in-person meeting of the class on this date. Participation grades for this week will be calculated based upon the submission of discussion questions and students' completion of the online video lecture.
- Readings: Adam Smith, *Theory of Moral Sentiments*
  - o I.i; I.iii; II.ii; IV
    - Part I, Sections 1 and 3
    - Part II, Section 2
    - Part IV
  - o Available online: Past Masters database (MacOdrum library website)

**Week 12 (Nov. 21): Adam Smith**

- Readings: Adam Smith, *Wealth of Nations*
  - o Introduction; I.i-ii; I.viii; II.iii
    - Introduction and Plan of the Work
    - Book I, Chapters 1-2 and 8
    - Book II, Chapter 3

- Available online: Past Masters database (MacOdrum library website)

- **Essay Due November 22**

**Week 13 (Nov. 28): 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. 5): Review and Concluding Discussion**

**Key Dates: Summary**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
September 5	Intro to the Course	
September 12	What was the Scottish Enlightenment?	
September 19	Hume: <i>Essays</i>	
September 26	Hume: <i>Essays</i>	
October 3	Hume: <i>History of England</i>	
<b>October 4</b>		<b>Question Assessment Due</b>
October 10	Research and Writing Workshop	
October 17	Ferguson: <i>Essay on the History of Civil Society</i> (I & II)	
October 24	No Class: Fall Break	
October 31	Ferguson: <i>Essay on the History of Civil Society</i> (III & IV)	
November 7	Ferguson: <i>Essay on the History of Civil Society</i> (V & VI)	
November 14	<b>Asynchronous Video Lecture</b>	

	Smith: <i>Theory of Moral Sentiments</i>	
November 21	Smith: <i>Wealth of Nations</i>	
<b>November 22</b>		<b>Essay Due</b>
November 28	Smith: <i>Wealth of Nations</i>	
December 5	Review and Concluding Discussion	
<b>December – Exam Period (Dec. 9-21)</b>		<b>Final Exam</b>

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## 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 (MLA, 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 around the world. A core ethical principle that undergirds all of these scholarly communities is the responsibility of every scholar to 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 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.11) and consult the University’s page on academic integrity: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

## Oral Examinations of Written Assignments



The professor reserves the right to examine any student in-person on the content of written work they have submitted in the class.

### **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**

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.

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## **Appendix**

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### **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**

Deferred final exams, which must be applied for at the RO, are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course. The course outline must stipulate any minimum standards for good standing that a student must meet to be entitled to write a deferred final exam.

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](mailto: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](#).

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website ([students.carleton.ca/course-outline](http://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](http://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).

Permissibility of submitting substantially the same piece of work more than once for academic credit.

If group or collaborative work is expected or allowed, provide a clear and specific description of how and to what extent you consider collaboration to be acceptable or appropriate, especially in the completion of written assignments.

### **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 the 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.

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