COURSE AIMS

Until quite recently Foucault was best known within political studies as a ‘postmodern’ theorist of discourse or perhaps for his path-breaking historical studies of modern regimes of madness, medicine, delinquency, and sexuality. Yet in his later work he also examined the government of the state and what he called the history of ‘governmentality’. While his studies in this field were never fully worked up into monographs, researchers in many areas of the social sciences have since taken up his initial hypotheses and concepts. As a result there is today a considerable interdisciplinary literature concerning ‘governmentality’. This course will introduce students to these Foucauldian studies of government. It will pay special attention to the relevance of governmentality for political studies and world politics. If it is still the case that governmentality has made a much greater impact on fields like sociology and criminology than political science, then this is unfortunate. The governmentality literature offers a way to theorize many aspects of contemporary political transformations which seem to confound more conventional political science approaches.

While this is a theoretically-oriented course, it is not an exercise in academic political theory. Most of Foucault’s research was related to concrete questions, specific discourses, and institutional complexes of power – prisons, clinics, systems of administration, etc. In a similar vein, governmentality studies stands apart from much contemporary social theory in its rejection of meta-concepts like ‘modernity’ or ‘globalization’. Instead, it has engaged in contextual and finely-grained empirical investigations of particular problem-sites.

Accordingly, besides introducing governmentality studies, the aim of this course is to provide students with insights and concepts in order to develop empirically-focused research projects. The final two weeks of the course will take the form of mini-conferences where participants will present their work in progress. The themes for the conference panels will reflect students’ particular research interests.
COURSE TEXTS
You should purchase Foucault’s *Security, Territory, Population* (Palgrave 2007) and *The Birth of Biopolitics* (Palgrave 2008). Copies are available at Octopus Books (Second Avenue). All other required readings will be available through the library online journals or placed as PDF files on webCT. Required books as well as some of the further reading will be placed on reserve in the library.

READING AHEAD
Reading ahead of the beginning of the course is strongly advised, especially for students new to the theme. The following is a short list of recommended books and articles that do a good job of mapping the scene and addressing some of its problems.

Hindess, Barry. 1996 *Discourses of Power: From Hobbes to Foucault* (Blackwell) Ch. 5

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>In Class Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay (Oct 7)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Conference Presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper (Dec 9)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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1. **One in-class presentation** (MAX. 10 mins) **(10%)**. based on one of the set readings. Too often the class presentations ends up simply summarizing something the class should already know. **DO NOT BORE YOUR CLASSMATES BY SUMMARIZING THE READING.** Instead, you are strongly encouraged to:
   - Highlight and discuss what you consider to be one strength and one weakness in the reading.
   - Concretize the theoretical argument/claims in the reading, or in your criticism, by relating it to something historical or current.
   - Use visual material such as webcasts and slides – projection and computer equipment will be made available if you give me at least one week’s notice.

2. **Preparation** for and **active participation** in weekly seminars. **(10%)**
3. **One short essay** (Text plus footnotes or endnotes should be 2000 words. The bibliography is additional to the word count.) **Question:** “What is genealogy?” (25%) *(due in class Oct 7)*. Some guidelines for the paper:

- What distinguishes genealogy as an approach to political and historical analysis? Is it a ‘theory’ or something else? What are its strengths and limitations? How does it compare with other theories/approaches (e.g., Marxism or rational choice)?

- You are strongly encouraged to frame your answer in terms of a particular issue or problem. Of course, in just 2000 words you cannot possibly write the genealogy of X! But you can outline what a genealogical approach to X might look like, what issues it would have to consider etc. For example, see the further reading by Baker, K.M., 1994. “A Foucauldian French Revolution?” In *Foucault and the Writing of History*, edited by Jan Goldstein. Oxford: Blackwell.

4. **Presentation** (15 mins) of your work-in-progress at one of the mini-conferences during weeks 12 and 13 (15%). These will take the form of panels of three or four papers. We will agree the themes for the panels based on a survey of students’ research interests later in the term.

5. **Major research paper. Word length:** For graduate students: 5000 words; for undergraduates: 4000 words including footnotes but not including bibliography) (40%) *(leave in Political Science drop box before 12 noon, 9 December)*. There are several possibilities here. For example, you could write a ‘theory’ paper (e.g., comparing governmentality to other research agendas); a critique of Foucault and governmentality; or a paper which develops the genealogy of X which you outlined in your short essay. (But it could be a genealogy of Y!)

6. **Late penalties:** One half grade will be deducted for each day late. Hence, if your short essay were submitted on Oct 8 instead of Oct 7, you would drop from, say, A to A-.

**THEMES AND READINGS** (* denotes reading is available for download from webCT)*

1. **Introduction (Sept 9)**

   **I. CONCEPTS AND METHODS**

2. **Questions of Power (Sept 16)**

Deleuze, Gilles. 1988 *Foucault*. Minneapolis: U. Minnesota Press (see the chapter on the ‘new cartographer’)


Smart, B. *Michel Foucault*.


Fraser, Nancy. 2003. ‘From discipline to flexibilization: rereading Foucault in the shadow of globalization’. *Constellations* 10(2).


Further reading


Lemke, Thomas. 2003. ‘Comment on Nancy Fraser’. *Constellations* 10(2).


Isin, Engin. 2002 *Being Political: Genealogies of Citizenship*. (U. Minnesota P)


Dreyfus, H. and P. Rabinow, *Michel Foucault: Beyond Structuralism and Hermeneutics*.


II. GOVERNMENTALITY AND BIOPOLITICS

4. Biopower and Biopolitics (Sept 30)


Further Reading

5. Governmentality: Foucault’s Lectures at the Collège de France (Oct 7)
Foucault, Michel. 2007. Security, Territory, Population, New York, Palgrave, Ch. 4

6. Liberalism and Other Arts of Government (Oct 14)
Foucault, Michel 2007. Security, Territory, Population, Ch. 5 (pastoral power)
Foucault, Michel 2008. The Birth of Biopolitics, Ch. 2 (liberalism)

7. After Foucault: Governmentality Studies (Oct 21)

Further reading (weeks 5-7)


Jessop, B. 2003. ‘Governance and meta-governance’ in Bang, HP (ed) Governance as social and political communication. Manchester UP.


Butler, Judith. 2004 Precarious Life (Verso) Ch. 3 (‘Indefinite detention’).


Further Reading


III. IS THERE AN INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENTALITY STUDIES?


Further reading.
Dillon, M. ‘Sovereignty and Governmentality’. Alternatives 20(3) 1995

10 No Class (Nov 11)

11. Governmentality and International Relations Theory (Nov 18)

Further Reading


IV. STUDENT PROJECTS
12. Mini-conference I (Nov 25)

13. Mini-conference II (Dec 2)

Academic Accommodations

For students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your request for accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs at least two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by November 15 2010 for December examinations and March 11 2011 for April examinations.

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 include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Oral Examination: At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be handed directly to the instructor 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. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading: Assignments and exams will be graded with a percentage grade. To convert this to a letter grade or to the university 12-point system, please refer to the following table.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade 12-point scale</th>
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<th>Letter grade 12-point scale</th>
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<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
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<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>50-52</td>
<td>D-</td>
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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.

Course Requirements: Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

Connect Email Accounts: All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via Connect. Important course and University information is also distributed via the Connect email system. It is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Connect account.

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 in the after-hours academic life 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, please email carletonpss@gmail.com, visit our website at poliscisociety.com, 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.