

Carleton University
Department of Political Science

Fall/Winter
2012/13

PSCI 4305A
Contemporary Political Theory
Friday 11:35 -14:30
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Dr. Tom Darby
Office: C675 Loeb Building
Telephone: 520-2600, ext. 2778
Office Hours: **Tues. & Thurs. 3:00-4:00**
Fri. 10:00 -11:00

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Course Rationale and Objective:

We will question the meaning of the most prevailing yet complex phenomena of our time. Here we will focus on a cluster of closely related themes: The End of History, Technology, Nihilism and Planetary, Global or what Nietzsche called 'Great Politics'.

Course Requirements:

Students must complete each of the following components of the course in order to achieve a passing grade. There will be no final examination. Students are expected to attend class regularly, to read all assigned material, to participate in discussion and to prepare and make oral presentations in class.

Evaluation

First Term Essay due first meeting in Jan.	20%
Final Essay due last meeting in April	50%
Class Presentations dates to be determined	30%

Submission and Return of Term Work:

Essays must be handed directly to the instructor, in class, and **will not** be date-stamped in the departmental office. Attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish to have your final assignment returned by mail. Papers submitted without a stamped, self-addressed envelope may be **picked up at my office** on a date to be announced later in class. **Do not** put essays in my mailbox **or** under my door.

Late Paper Policy:

You may have an extension automatically. However, marks will be deducted for late submissions at the rate of one half-letter grade per day, with weekends counting as two days. Late papers will be delivered **directly to me** and not to the Political Science office. If you have serious extenuating circumstances which would warrant an extension without penalty (such as illness, death, plague and pestilence, foreign invasion or civil war). In the instance of illness, medical documentation detailing the extent of your incapacitation is required. The medical note need not record your diagnosis, but it must tell me what you are consequently unable to do, e.g., cannot type, write, see, etc. Retroactive extensions will not be granted. **You must keep a copy of your paper, otherwise the** instructor may require students to pass an oral examination on the research essay (see the section on Plagiarism below), you should keep all notes, outlines, working drafts and other research material at least until you have received your final grade for the course.

REQUIRED READINGS FOR FALL TERM AND APPROXIMATE READING SCHEDULE

Twentieth and Twenty-First Century Perspectives and Nineteenth Century Retrospective

The Theme for the First term: the End of History and the Dialectic of Culture and Civilization

1. Darby, T., "On Spiritual Crisis, Globalization and Planetary Rule, in eds., Lawler, P. and McConkey, D., Faith, Reason and Political life Today (Toronto: Rowman and Littlefield, 2001) [7 Sept - 14 Sept.]
2. Darby, T., *The Feast: Meditations on Politics and Time* (Toronto: the University of Toronto Press, 1990) Chapters 3,5, 6; (Course Pack available) [21 Sept – 12 Oct.]
3. Kojève, A., *Introduction to the Reading of Hegel*, assembled, Queneau, R., ed., Bloom, A., trans., Nichols, J. (Ithaca : Cornell University Press, 1980), Chapters 5, 7 [19 Oct – Nov. 2]
4. Kojève, A., "The Idea of Death in the Philosophy of Hegel" (photocopy available) [Nov.9]
5. Gillis, H., "On Kojève's Atheism" [Nov. 9] (photocopy available)
6. Hegel, G.W.F., *The Phenomenology of Spirit*, trans., Miller, A. (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1977) (selections) [Nov. 9]
7. Nietzsche, F., *On the Uses and Abuses of History*, trans. Collins, A. (New York: The Bobbs –Merrill Company, 1957) [Nov. 16]
8. Nietzsche, F., *the Genealogy of Morals*, trans., Kaufmann, W. (New York: Random House, 1967) [Nov. 23]
9. Darby, T., "Overarching Metaphors and the Configurations of the Western city", (Design Principles and Practices: An International Journal (Champaign: Common Ground Publishing, Vol. 5, Issue 6, Winter, 2011) (photocopy available) [Nov. 30.]

Theme for the Second term: Politics, Technology and the Contest for the Planet

The second term course outline will be issued in October along with an extensive resource list of over one hundred entries. The required readings for both fall and winter terms will be drawn from this bibliography.

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 9th, 2012 for December examinations and March 8th, 2013 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.

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

Grades: Final grades are derived from the completion of course assignments. Failure to write the final exam will result in the grade ABS. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

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.

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.