Instructor: Hans-Martin Jaeger
Office: C 671 Loeb
Office Hours: Monday 15:00 – 17:00
           Wednesday 15:00 – 17:00
           (or by appointment)
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Course Description
This class continues the study of fundamental theoretical and conceptual questions in ancient, medieval, early modern, and modern political thought in the first part of this course through the examination of selected emblematic writings in modern (18th century Enlightenment, and 19th century philosophical-historical and political-economic) and contemporary (20th century existentialist, post-Kantian, poststructural/postfoundational, and posthumanist) Western, especially “continental,” political thought (albeit without much attention to these labels). As such, the course is concerned with some perennial questions in political theory, including (among others) those of ethics and justice, the nature of political knowledge and human nature, political order and organization, law and legitimacy, and rationality and historicity. Reflecting some distinctively modern and late-modern sensibilities, we will also investigate relationships between sovereignty and other forms of power (and resistance), the political and the social/economic, critique and crisis, power and knowledge, and human and other-than-human worlds (among others). These themes and relationships will be examined through the study of important works by Rousseau, Kant, Hegel, Marx, Schmitt, Arendt, Habermas, Foucault, Agamben, and Rancière. The chosen works will be brought into conversation – in highly selective fashion – with equally important extensions and commentaries on these works by contemporary political theorists who have drawn attention to presuppositions and legacies of gender, race and colonialism – and associated exclusions and hierarchies – in Western political thought. The course is intended as a broad survey with some attention to the historical and intellectual contexts of the selected authors and readings. However, we will also selectively engage in in-depth textual and thematic interpretation, analysis, and critique of the ideas in the readings. Together, PSCI 6300 and 6301 are geared to prepare students for the Ph.D. comprehensive examination in Political Theory (also see Ph.D. Core Course Stipulations below).
Course Format

In-person course; no hybrid option.

Learning Outcomes

Coupled with the first part of this course, students should be able to

- identify and explain important themes, debates, and philosophical fault lines in the history of Western political thought and the field of Political Theory;
- deploy the interpretative and writing skills required to examine these themes and debates in their analytical and normative dimensions;
- historically and intellectually situate, analyze, and critically evaluate the conceptual and theoretical contributions made by the selected authors addressing these themes;
- assess the potentials and limitations of different political theories as interventions in contemporary political debates.

Readings

You could consider purchasing any or all of the following books from your preferred book seller to build your personal political theory library. Many of these books are also available as pdf-files on the internet (in many cases free of charge). Other required readings are listed in the Class Schedule below. All readings will also be available through Carleton’s ARES online reserve system.

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques [1755] *Discourse on Inequality* [any edition].


Kant, Immanuel [1784-1793] Political Writings [any edition including the selected essays].


Hegel, Georg Wilhelm Friedrich [1821] *[Elements of the] Philosophy of Right* [any edition].
Marx, Karl (and Friedrich Engels) [1846-1867] Selected Writings (Hackett) [or Marx-Engels Reader (Norton), or any edition of the selected readings].


**Requirements and Evaluation**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage of final grade</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two class presentations</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>(You will be asked to sign up for dates in our first class on January 8.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two review essays</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>February 26 and April 10</td>
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**Class participation:** Students are expected to attend all classes, read the assigned texts prior to class meetings, and participate actively and regularly in class discussions. Class participation will be evaluated based on the quality and quantity of contributions to class discussions with greater
weight given to quality. Quality contributions to class discussions include questions and comments which demonstrate that you can analytically, interpretatively, and critically reflect on and engage with the ideas of the readings, and that you can make connections between these ideas and other themes or readings in the course.

**Two class presentations:** Each student will give two class presentations (20 minutes each) introducing the required readings for a particular class. You will be asked to sign up for the dates of your presentations in the first class on January 8. The class presentations should

(a) briefly outline some of the central ideas (e.g. arguments, distinctive claims, approach) of the assigned readings;

(b) discuss how the readings relate to each other (if applicable) and/or how they relate to other authors, themes or readings discussed in the course;

(c) analyze, intellectually contextualize, and/or critically evaluate the contributions of the readings to addressing one or several central themes in Political Theory;

(d) propose three questions for class discussion.

It is essential that your presentations not be mere summaries of the readings. The summative reconstruction of central ideas of the readings should take up no more than half of your presentation (preferably less). The discussion questions should be uploaded to Brightspace one day (24 h) before class.

**Two review essays:** Each student will write two review essays (2400-3000 words plus bibliography, 12-point font, double-spaced). Each review essay should focus on a salient theme in (or important question raised by) the readings (or a selection of the readings) for one class and examine the author’s argument about the chosen theme (or question) in the context of different interpretations of the latter in the secondary literature. The review essay can also compare readings of two classes with respect to a salient theme (or question) in relation to different interpretations in the secondary literature. In either case, the review essay should

(a) **compare and contrast different interpretations** of the text’s (or texts’) argument(s) about the chosen theme (or question) in the secondary literature;

(b) **adjudicate between these interpretations by providing a critical analysis and assessment** of their merits and limitations; and

(c) **develop a distinctive argument** about the theme (or question) in the primary reading(s) that may draw on, but should also go beyond, the interpretations found in the secondary literature discussed under (a) and (b) (e.g. by further refining a particular interpretation, offering a combination of elements of different interpretations, or developing an alternative to these).

While no comprehensive consideration of relevant secondary literature is expected, your review essay should discuss at least five different sources (books or journal articles) in relation to the “primary evidence” in the class reading(s). The review essays can be submitted on Brightspace at any time during the term, but the first one no later than February 26 and the second one by April 10. There will be no extensions of these deadlines, except in cases such as medical or family emergencies.
Class Schedule [reading assignments are subject to modification, as appropriate]

Jan. 8  Introduction

Jan. 15  Rousseau: Ancient-Modern-Postmodern?
Rousseau, Jean-Jacques [1755] *Discourse on Inequality* (entire, omit notes).
Book I; Book II; Book III, chs. 1-3, 8-18; Book IV, chs. 1-3, 7-9.

Jan. 22  Afterlives of Social Contract Theory

Jan. 29  Kant, Hegel, and Philosophy of History (Upside Down?)
Kant, Immanuel [1784] “Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Intent.”
Kant, Immanuel [1784] “An Answer to the Question: What is Enlightenment?”
Kant, Immanuel [1793] “On the Proverb: That May be True in Theory, but is of no Practical Use.”
Hegel, Georg Wilhelm Friedrich [1837] “Introduction to the *Philosophy of History.*”

Feb. 5  Hegel’s Political Philosophy (Today)
Feb. 12  **Marx (… and Turtle Island)**


Marx, Karl [1859] Preface to *A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy*.

Marx, Karl [1867] *Capital*, Volume I, Ch. 1, sections 1, 2, and 4; chs. 26, 32.


*Optional background reading (not required):*

Marx, Karl [1843] “On the Jewish Question”

Marx, Karl [1844] *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts* (selections)

Feb. 19  **Winter Break (no class)**

Feb. 26  **Schmitt, Sovereignty, and (Agnostic-Pluralist?) Democracy**

Schmitt, Carl (2005 [1922]) *Political Theology: Four Chapters on the Concept of Sovereignty*, Chs. 1 and 3.


*Optional background reading (not required):*


Mar. 4 Prolegomena and Fragments of Arendt’s Political Theory  
(and the Feminist Public Space)

Mar. 11 Habermas: Philosophy and Praxeology of Deliberative Democracy  
(and its Colonizations)

Background reading (not required):
Mar. 18  **Foucault: From Sovereignty to Governmentality and (Neo-) Liberalism**


Optional background reading (not required):


Mar. 25  **Agamben: Sovereignty Redux, Biopower, and the Archaeology of Glory**


Dean, Mitchell (2013) *The Signature of Power: Sovereignty, Governmentality and Biopolitics*, Chs. 7 and 8 (pp. 163-227).
Apr. 1  **Gaia Politics, Coloniality/Raciality, Necropolitics, and Geontopower**
(Or: The Political Beyond Sovereignty/Nomos, the Public Sphere, and Biopower)


Optional (not required):


Apr. 8  **Rancière: “Politics is not the Exercise of Power”**


Ph.D. Core Course Stipulations

All Graduate Students registered in a core course should be aware of the following guidelines.

(i) A student must complete both halves of the core course, with a B+ standing or higher, to be eligible to write the scheduled August comprehensive examination.

(ii) Students must complete the Winter core course and submit all outstanding work by the end of the Winter term. In the case of extenuating circumstances an extension may be granted by the course instructor, but all outstanding work must be completed by May 10. In these instances, a student will be awarded an "F" until a change of grade is submitted. Students may be deregistered from the core course examination if this condition is not met.

(iii) Eligibility to write the comp will be determined by the Graduate Administrator and Graduate Supervisor by the end of May.

Appendix

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/](https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/)

- **Carleton Resources:**
  - Mental Health and Wellbeing: [https://carleton.ca/wellness/](https://carleton.ca/wellness/)
  - Health & Counselling Services: [https://carleton.ca/health/](https://carleton.ca/health/)
  - Paul Menton Centre: [https://carleton.ca/pmc/](https://carleton.ca/pmc/)
  - Academic Advising Centre (AAC): [https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/](https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/)
  - Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): [https://carleton.ca/csas/](https://carleton.ca/csas/)
  - Equity & Inclusivity Communities: [https://carleton.ca/equity/](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/](https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/)
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:

**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 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](#).

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [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).

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>57-59</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>53-56</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50-52</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>
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/](https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/).

**Official Course Outline**

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.