

PSCI 6301 (Winter 2018). POLITICAL THEORY II

Tuesdays 11:35 am - 2:25 pm. LA 602

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Office hours: Thursdays 12 noon — 4 p.m.

Theme of course:

Early modern political theorists such as Hobbes advanced a new science of politics which they believed possessed the same empirical rigor as modern natural science. That enterprise was part of the larger phenomenon of political modernity which stressed the primacy of the individual over the community and argued that the satisfaction of individual self-interest was the only legitimate purpose of government. As we will see in this course, beginning with Rousseau and continuing with the historical school of Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche and Heidegger, the premises of political modernity were challenged on every level in a great counter-movement. The primacy of the individual both empirically and ethically was rejected in favor of a restored belief in community, while modern political science with its claims to scientific rigor was rejected in favor of historical experience. The unfolding of this counter-movement against modernity from Hegel to Heidegger is also the unfolding of ever more revolutionary and illiberal political expectations for the future. The controversial character of this critique of modernity and the expectations for its complete overthrow remain central pre-occupations of continental political theory, as contemporary post-modernism and critical theory have wrestled with the mixed legacy of the historical school and its fragmentation after Heidegger. Open to PhD and M.A. students.

Texts (on order at Bookstore):*

Rousseau, DISCOURSE ON THE ORIGINS OF INEQUALITY. In BASIC POLITICAL WRITINGS (Hackett).

Hegel, PHENOMENOLOGY OF SPIRIT. (Oxford).

Marx, ON THE JEWISH QUESTION; COMMUNIST MANIFESTO. In SELECTED WRITINGS (Hackett).

Nietzsche, BEYOND GOOD AND EVIL. (Vintage).

Heidegger, AN INTRODUCTION TO METAPHYSICS. (Yale); BASIC WRITINGS (Harper).

* A number of these readings may be available free on line. The Baillie translation of Hegel is acceptable. The only draw-back is that, unlike the Miller translation from Oxford, it lacks the section numbers from Hegel's text, which is how I reference the reading. I strongly recommend Kauffman's translation of BEYOND GOOD AND EVIL from Vintage.

Evaluation:

- 1) A term paper to be submitted at my office on the last day of the Winter term, April 11, at 12 noon. 15 pages double-spaced typed. Worth 50% of grade.
- 2) Weekly oral presentations on the readings on an equally rotating basis. Worth 50% of grade.

Attendance and Lateness Policy:

- 1) Attendance is obligatory, not optional. Every student is expected to attend every class unless the student has a recognized documented medical or personal excuse for being absent.
- 2) Late papers will be penalized by half a grade a day after the final due date for submission.

Schedule of Readings:

- Jan. 9. Introductory Remarks.
- Jan. 16. Rousseau, DISCOURSE ON THE ORIGINS OF INEQUALITY.
- Jan. 23. Hegel, PHENOMENOLOGY OF SPIRIT. Miller translation (Oxford). Readings are by section number, not page number. Preface, 1-41; Introduction (entire).
- Jan. 30. Hegel continued. The Truth of Self-Certainty, 166-167. Lordship and Bondage, 178-196; Stoicism, 197-201; Skepticism, 202-205; Unhappy Consciousness, 206-230.
- Feb. 6. Spirit, 438-443. Ethical World, 446-463; Ethical Action, 464-476; Right, 477-483; Self-estrangement, 484-486. Absolute Freedom and Terror, 582-596; Forgiveness, 670-671; Religion, 672-683.
- Feb. 13. Marx, ON THE JEWISH QUESTION; THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO.

WINTER BREAK

- Feb. 27. Nietzsche, BEYOND GOOD AND EVIL, parts 1-4.
- March 6. Nietzsche continued. Parts 5-9.

- March 13. Heidegger, AN INTRODUCTION TO METAPHYSICS, Part 1-2.
- March 20. Heidegger continued. Parts 3-4.
- March 27. Heidegger continued. ORIGIN OF THE ARTWORK; A LETTER ON HUMANISM; AN ESSAY CONCERNING TECHNOLOGY.
- April 3. Concluding Remarks: The Fragmentation of Historicist Political Philosophy and The Continuing Debate about Political Modernity.

Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

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

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 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. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

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 |

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.

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 cuLearn. As

important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.