

PSCI 6300F
GRADUATE SEMINAR IN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Monday 8:35am-11:25am

Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Professor Peter Emberley
Office: Loeb D685
Phone: 520-2600 x2577
Office Hours: Tuesday 11:30-12:30; Thursday 2:30-3:30
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Overview

Reason and Revelation. Jerusalem/Rome and Athens. Logos and Faith. Philosophy and Religion. These are various ways of acknowledging that the unique conversation that is western civilization has two primals. At one level, there are significant similarities. Both address the question “what are the limits and possibilities of human nature?,” and both identify the distinctly human desire for transcendence, and its relation to political community as the locus, or originating point, of the enquiry. Each employs a distinctive philosophical anthropology, and each offers different diagnoses and solutions to the problem of disorder. Each also offers a distinct art of political rule. Yet, they also differ significantly, obvious even in the vocabulary each employs to open up experienced reality: eros or agape, thumos or will, justice or charity, soul or spirit, nature or history, city or empire, to name just a few points of divergence.

In this class, in addition to exploring each of these primals on their own terms, we will also put them in conversation with one another, to understand how their debate informs virtually all aspects of western civilization, up to our own times. Although our focus is the thought of the ancient Greek and medieval Christian world, our discussions will include the impact this legacy has had on modern consciousness.

Texts(Available at MacOdrum Library)

Sophocles, *Three Theban Plays*, Penguin
Aristophanes, *Complete Plays of Aristophanes*, Bantam
Plato, *Republic*, Basic
Aristotle, *Politics*, Penguin
Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, Penguin
Augustine, *On Christian Doctrine*, Pearson Education

Augustine, *Confessions* Penguin

Augustine, *City of God*, Penguin

Josef Pieper, *The Human Wisdom of St. Thomas Aquinas*, Ignatius Press

Course Work:

Seminar Participation 40%

Seminar Summaries 30%

Essay (Dec 8) 30%

There are 3 components:

Seminar Participation: Worth 40%

(Seminar participants will be expected to contribute weekly to the discussion, exhibiting evidence of reflection on the assigned materials. Each participant will be expected to give two 20-minute seminar presentations on 2-3 of the “supplementary readings”

Seminar Summaries: Worth 30%

(Seminar participants will be expected at the beginning of each class to submit a 2-3 page summary/commentary on the salient issues discussed in the previous seminar)

Essay: Worth 30%, due December 8, 20-25 pages

Supplementary Readings:

PLATO AND ARISTOTLE Recommended Books

Joseph Cropsey, *Plato's World: Man's Place in the Cosmo*

Eric Voegelin, *Plato*

Catherine Zuckert, *Plato's Philosophers: The Coherence of the Dialogues*

Rona Burger, *Aristotle's Dialogue with Socrates on the Nicomachean Ethics*

Seth Bernadete, *The Rhetoric of Morality and Philosophy: Plato's Gorgias and Phaedrus*

Mary Nicols, *Socrates and the Political Community*

Aristide Tessitore ed., *Aristotle and Modern Politics: The Persistence of Political Philosophy*

Hannah Arendt, *The Human Condition*

Waller Newell, *Ruling Passions: The Erotics of Statecraft in Platonic Political Philosophy*

Leon Craig, *The War Lover: A Study of Plato's Republic*

Remi Brague, *The Wisdom of the World: The Human Experience of the Universe in Western Thought*

R. B. Rutherford, *The Art of Plato: Ten Essays in Platonic Interpretation*

Select Articles (from *Interpretation*)

- Jacob Howland, The Mythology of Philosophy: Plato's Republic and the Odyssey of the Soul
Vol. Interpretation 33/3 (Summer 2006)
- Ronna Berger The Thumotic and the Erotic Soul: Seth Benardete on Platonic Psychology
Interpretation, Vol. 32/1 (Winter 2004-05)
- Patrick Coby, Mind Your Own Business: The Trouble with Justice in Plato's Republic,
Interpretation, Vol. 31/1 (Fall 2003)
- Leighton Moore, Laughing at the Logoi, Vol. 26/3 (Spring 1999)
- John S. Treantafelles On the Teachability of Virtue: Political Philosophy's Paradox,
Interpretation, Vol. 30/1 (Fall 2002)
- Larry Arnhart, Defending Natural Right, Vol. 27/3 (Spring 2000)
- Waldemar Hanasz, Poetic Justice for Plato's Democracy? Vol. 25/1 (Fall 1997)
- Leo Strauss, The Origins of Political Science and the Problem of Socrates, Interpretation
vol. 23 (2) Winter 1996
- Judith Swanson and Ken Masugi, The Public and the Private in Aristotle's Political Philosophy
Interpretation, vol.23 (1) Fall 1995
- Mark Kremer, Aristophanes' Criticism of Egalitarianism: An Interpretation of The Assembly of
Women, Interpretation, Vol. 21/3 (Spring 1994)
- Nalin Ranasinghe, Deceit, Desire, and the Dialectic: Plato's Republic Revisited Vol.
Interpretation, 21/3 (Spring 1994)
- Marc D. Guerra, "Aristotle on Pleasure and Political Philosophy: A Study in Book VII of the
Nicomachean Ethics" Vol. 24/2 (Winter, 1997)
- Thomas Lewis, Identifying Rhetoric in the Apology: Does Socrates Use the Appeal for Pity?
- Joel Warren Lidz, Reflections on and in Plato's Cave, Interpretation, Vol. 21/2 (Winter 1993-94)
- Leo Strauss, translated by Robert Bartlett, Some Remarks on the Political Science of
Maimonides and Farabi, Vol. 18/1 (Fall 1990)
- Joseph Cropsey, On Ancients and Moderns Vol. 18/1 (Fall 1990)
- Jacob A. Howland Socrates and Alcibiades: Eros, Piety, and Politics, Vol. 18/1 (Fall 1990)
- Drew A. Hyland, Plato's Three Waves and the Question of Utopian Politics, Vol. 18/1 (Fall 1990)
- In Ha Jang, The Problematic Character of Socrates' Defense of Justice in Plato's Republic,"
- Charles Salman, The Wisdom of Plato's Aristophanes, Vol 24/1 (Fall 1996)
- Howland, Jacob, The Mythology of Philosophy: Plato's Republic and the Odyssey of the Soul,
Vol. 33/3 (Summer 2006)
- Devin Stauffer, "The Unity of Plato's "Gorgias": Rhetoric, Justice, and the Philosophic Life,"
Cambridge, 2006
- Ronna Berger, The Thumotic and the Erotic Soul: Seth Benardete on Platonic Psychology
- Quentin P. Taylor, Public Deliberation and Popular Government in Aristotle's Politics,
Interpretation, Vol. 29/3 (Spring 2002)
- Jacob Howland, The Mythology of Philosophy: Plato's Republic and the Odyssey of the Soul
Interpretation, Vol. 33/3 (Summer 2006)
- Corine Pelluchon, Strauss and Christianity Interpretation, Vol. 33/1 (Fall/Winter 2005)
- Catherine Zuckert, Plato's World: Man's Place in the Cosmos, by Joseph Cropsey Vol. 23/2
(Winter 1996)

Ronna Berger The Thumotic and the Erotic Soul: Seth Benardete on Platonic Psychology,
VOL 32; PART 1, pages 57-76
Quentin P. Taylor, Public Deliberation and Popular Government in Aristotle's Politics
Scot Zentner The Philosopher and the City: Harry Jaffa and the Straussians, vol. 30, no3,
pp. 273-307
John S. Treantafelles, On the Teachability of Virtue: Political Philosophy's Paradox, volume
30:11, 21-48, 2002

AUGUSTINE Recommended Books

James J. O'DGerard O'Daly, Augustine's City of God: A Reader's Guide
Allan D. Fitzgerald, Augustine Through the Ages: An Encyclopedia
Henry Chadwick, Augustine, Past Masters (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986)
Carol Harrison, Rethinking Augustine's Early Theology: An Argument for Continuity
Hannah Arendt, Love and St. Augustine
Gerald Bonner, Freedom And Necessity: St. Augustine's Teaching on Divine Power And Human
Freedom
R. A. Markus, Saeculum: History and Society in the Theology of St Augustine
R. A. Markus, The End of Ancient Christianity
Remi Brague, Law of God: The Philosophical History of an Idea
Remi Brague, The Legend of the Middle Ages: Philosophical Explorations of Medieval
Christianity, Judaism, and Islam
Robert Dyson, St. Augustine of Hippo: The Christian Transformation of Political Philosophy
Etienne Gilson, The Christian Philosophy of Saint Augustine
Dorothy F. Donnelly, ed., The City of God: A Collection of Critical Essays, 1995
Jean Bethke Elshtain, Augustine and the Limits of Politics, 1995

Select Articles (from *Augustinian Studies*)

D. J. MacQueen, "The Origin and Dynamics of Society and the State" *Augustine Studies* 4
(1973): 73-101
Alberto Pincherle, "The Confessions of St. Augustine: A Reappraisal," *AugStud* 7 (1976): 119-
133
Patricia Wilson-Kastner, "Grace as Participation in the Divine Life in the Theology of Augustine
of Hippo" *AugStud* 7 (1976): 135-152
David DeCelles, "Divine Prescience and Human Freedom in Augustine" *AugStud* 8 (1977): 151-
160
James J. O'Donnell, "The Inspiration for Augustine's 'De Civitate Dei'" *AugStud* 10 (1979): 75-
79
James Dougherty, "The Sacred City and the City of God" *AugStud* 10 (1979): 81-90
Thomas Renna, "The Idea of Peace in the Augustinian Tradition 400-1200," *AugStud* 10 (1979):
105-111
Robert J. O'Connell, S.J., "Faith, Reason, and Ascent to Vision in St. Augustine,"
AugStud 21 (1990): 83-126

John von Heyking, Augustine and Politics as Longing in the World
 Donald L. Ross, "Time, the Heaven of Heavens, and Memory in Augustine's Confessions"
 AugStud 22 (1991): 191-205
 Roland J. Teske, S.J., "Saint Augustin as Philosopher: The Birth of Christian Metaphysics" [The
 1992 Saint Augustine Lecture], AugStud 23 (1992): 7-32
 Gerald Bonner, "Pelagianism and Augustine," AugStud 23 (1992): 33-51
 William P. Haggerty, "Augustine, the 'mixed Life', and Classical Political Philosophy Reflections
 on Compositio in Book 19 of the City of God," AugStud 23 (1992): 149-163
 William S. Babcock, "Augustine and the Spirituality of Desire," AugStud 25 (1994): 179-199
 Peter Burnell, "Concupiscence and Moral Freedom in Augustine and before Augustine"
 AugStud 26:1 (1995): 49-63
 Harry O. Maier, "The End of the City and the City without End: The City of God as Revelation"
 AugStud 30:2 (1999): 153-164
 Peter J. Burnell, "Is the Augustinian Heaven Inhuman? The Arguments of Martin Heidegger and
 Hannah Arendt," AugStud 30:2 (1999): 283-292
 Allan D. Fitzgerald, Augustine Through the Ages: An Encyclopedia

Schedule:

Fall Term:

September 15: Introduction **Elements of the Greek - Christian Dialogue**
 i) eros/agape ii) justice/charity iii) nature/history iv) city/empire

September 22: Sophocles, **Oedipus Rex, Antigone**

September 29: Aristophanes, **Clouds, Birds, Ecclesiazusae**

October 6: Plato, **Republic** 1-5

October 13: Plato, **Republic**, 6-10

October 20: Aristotle, **Nicomachean Ethics**

October 27: Aristotle, **Politics**

November 3: Augustine, **Confessions**

November 10: **Augustine, City of God, Penguin** Bks. I, II, IV, V, VIII, XI, XII

November 17: Augustine, **City of God, Penguin** XIII, XIV, XVI (4-6), XVIII

November 24: Augustine, **City of God, Penguin**, XIX, XXII, **On Christian Doctrine**

December 1: Josef Pieper, **The Human Wisdom of St. Thomas**

NOTE:

- **All components of the course (essay, weekly seminar participation, 12 seminar summaries) must be completed in order to receive a passing grade.**
- **Essays must be submitted on the day specified. Late papers will be docked one grade per weekday (from B+ to B, etc.). Late assignments not submitted directly to the instructor must be date-stamped in the Political Science Office, Loeb B640, during working hours. Essays placed in the drop box after working hours are date-stamped the following day. Essays cannot be submitted to the Department by fax.**

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 16, 2009 for December examinations** and **March 12, 2010 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.

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.