

Spring 1997

History of Western Political Thought/Political Theory II

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HISTORY OF WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT/POLITICAL THEORY II

HIST/POLS 4313

Spring 1997

Dr. Samson

Hardy 10

Office: MWF 8-10, MF 2-4; TR 8-9:30, 2:30-3

Phone: 939-4551

DESCRIPTION

A study of western political thought since the eighteenth century. Emphasis is placed upon the doctrines of Western democracy, Hegelian and fascist absolutism, Marxism, socialism, and problems of twentieth century nationalism. A study of modern western political theory with emphasis on Rousseau, Hegel, the English utilitarians, Marx, and Marx's twentieth century interpreters.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Each student is responsible for assigned readings and should keep a looseleaf notebook of class materials.
2. Participation is an essential part of class. Reading assignments should be completed before the class meets. Be prepared to discuss textbook material and readings. Each student will lead discussion of specific assigned readings.
3. Regular attendance is required. Lengthy absences and erratic attendance tend to affect grades. Exams must be taken at the scheduled date and time.
4. Students will be tested on the lecture, reading, and discussion material through two short answer and essay exams.
5. Each student will write a 4-5 page book abstract or two 2-3 page journal article abstracts, typed and double-spaced. Due May 9.

READING

Textbooks

Cohen, Mitchell, and Nicole Fermon. Princeton Readings in Political Theory. [C]
 Wisner, James. Political Philosophy. [W]

Reserve Desk

Bloom, Allan. Giants and Dwarfs: Essays 1960-1990.
 Ebenstein, William. Great Political Thinkers,
 Kirk, Russell. The Roots of American Order, 1974.
 Notebook: Study Aids and Supplementary Readings (to be announced)
 Strauss, Leo, and Joseph Cropsey. History of Political Philosophy, 2nd ed. [S]

SCHEDULE

SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY INTELLECTUAL REVOLUTIONS (January 31-February 3)

Lecture and Discussion Bodin and Althusius
The Scientific Revolution
Reading C. 39, W. 8

THOMAS HOBBES (February 5-14)

Lecture and Discussion Divine Right of Kings and the English Civil War
Radicals and Communists
Modernism, Absolutism, and the Social Contract
Reading C. 11; W. 9; Kirk 8

JOHN LOCKE (February 17-26)

Lecture and Discussion English Republicans
The Social Contract and the Liberal State
Reading C. 12; W. 10

JEAN-JACQUES ROUSSEAU (February 28-March 7)

Reading C. 13; W. 11-12; Kirk 10

ADAM SMITH (March 17-19)

Reading C. 14

FIRST EXAM: March 21

EDMUND BURKE (March 24-26)

Reading C. 17, W. 13

JEREMY BENTHAM AND JOHN STUART MILL (March 31-April 4)

Reading C. 20-21; W. 14

ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE (April 7-14)

Reading C. 22

G. W. F. HEGEL AND KARL MARX (April 16-25)

Reading C. 23-24; W. 15-16

MACHIAVELLIANS: GAETANO MOSCA AND ROBERT MICHELS (April 28-May 2)

Reading C. 27-28

VLADIMIR LENIN (May 5-7)

Reading C. 29; W. 17

HANNAH ARENDT (May 9-12)

Reading C. 33

GEORGE ORWELL (May 14-16)

Reading C. 34

FINAL EXAM: May 21, 8:30 AM

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Denbe, David. Great Books, 1996.
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- Minogue, Kenneth. Politics: A Very Short Introduction, 1995.
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- Popper, Karl R. The Open Society and Its Enemies, 1962.
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- Rahe, Paul. "John Locke's Philosophical Partisanship," Political Science Reviewer, 20 (Spring 1991): 1-43.
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- Stoner, James R., Jr. Common Law and Liberal Theory, 1992.
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- Thompson, Kenneth W. Fathers of International Thought: The Legacy of Political Theory, 1994.
- Tinder, Glenn. Political Thinking: The Perennial Questions, 6th ed., 1995.
- Toulmin, Stephen. Cosmopolis: The Hidden Agenda of Modernity, 1990.
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- Yolton, John W. A Locke Dictionary, 1993.