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| <b>PS 3202-02, History of Political Theory 2</b>   |
| Spring 2019  |
| Political Science  |
| Instructor: Dr. Chris Barker   |
| Course time: Sunday and Wednesday 2:00-3:15pm  |
| Course location: Waleed C135   |
| Instructor email and phone: <a href="mailto:chris.barker@aucegypt.edu">chris.barker@aucegypt.edu</a> ; ext. 4203 |
| Office hours: Wednesday and Sunday 11:15am-11:30am, 3:15-4:30pm or by appointment                                |
| Office location: HUSS, Room 2015   |

### **Course Catalog Description**

Analysis of the thought of the major contributors, from Plato to the present. Fall semester (301): ancient and medieval political philosophy and the modern break with traditions. Spring semester (302): main currents of modern thought.

### **Fall 2018 Course Overview**

What is the state, and how did “we the people” come to be the legitimate source of power within modern states? This course analyzes the modern state in terms of its sovereign authority, and other key concepts such as the separation of powers (executive, legislative, and judicial) and the rule of law. This course also examines the main theoretical approaches to the analysis of the state and state power: capitalism, socialism, communism, liberalism, and feminism.

### **Course Outcomes**

At the end of the course, the successful student will be able to

- Identify the unit of analysis of modern political history
- Identify new types of political regimes and ideologies not theorized by ancient authors (POLS 3201)
- Demonstrate familiarity with the major authors, concepts, and arguments in the modern history of political thought
- Identify and explain the main approaches to the analysis of modern political history, including the “isms” which develop in the late modern period (e.g., capitalism, socialism, communism, liberalism, feminism).
- Explain the growth and development of political science as an academic discipline, and situate political theory’s continuing contribution to that discipline
- Engage in persuasive analytical writing, as assessed through substantial, original papers on assigned topics in political theory

### **Course Goals**

This course will develop the students' abilities to think critically and to read analytically

in the major works of modern political theory.

**Prerequisites:** RHET 1010, RHET 1020, RHET 1100, RHET 2010, POLS 1001 or POLS 2003

### **Course Grading Requirements**

Participation in classroom discussions: 15%, including occasional inverted classroom assignments.

Weekly pop quizzes and writing assignments: 15%

Student midterm papers: 25% due at the beginning of class on March 6

Final paper: 25% due at the beginning of class on May 5

Final exam: 20% (scheduled for May 21; see online schedule)

### **Grading:**

|               |    |  |
|---------------|----|--|
| 94%-100%      | A  | "A" grades confirm exceptional, extraordinary effort and results   |
| 90%-93%       | A- |  |
| 87%-89%       | B+ | "B" grades confirm effort exceeding average and high quality work.   |
| 84%-86%       | B  |  |
| 80%-83%       | B- |  |
| 77%-79%       | C+ | "C" grades confirm average and satisfactory work.  |
| 74%-76%       | C  |  |
| 70%-73%       | C- |  |
| 65%-69%       | D+ | "D" grades confirm less than satisfactory effort and less than adequate work.  |
| 55%-65%       | D  |  |
| 55% and below | F  | "F" grades confirm far less than sufficient effort and results or may be given in response to a violation of academic integrity. |

### **Schedule of topics and readings**

The instructor reserves the right to alter the schedule of topics and readings if necessary. Holidays, travel days (which we need to make up), and other important days are marked below.

#### **1. Introduction:**

**Week 1 (Jan. 30 and Feb. 3):** Introduction to the syllabus; introduction to modern politics (reading: Canovan, *The People*, excerpt)

#### **2. The Birth of the State**

**Week 2 (Feb. 6 and 10):** Niccolò Machiavelli, *Prince*, "Epistle Dedicatory" and "Letter to Francesco Vettori"; Chapter 6 (greatest examples) // Chapter 7 (crimes and necessity); Frederick the Great, *Anti-Machiavel*, Chapter 6 and 8

**Week 3 (Feb. 13 and 17):** Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*, chapters 15 (the new political science); chapters 25-6 (fortune and Italian unification); Frederick the Great, *Anti-Machiavel*, Chapter 15; student presentation on Machiavelli as democrat

(McCormick, *Machiavellian Democracy*, short excerpt) // Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*, frontispiece, Chapter 10 on power

**Week 4 (Feb. 20 and 24):** Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Chapter 14 on natural laws; Chapter 17 on the commonwealth // Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Chapter 29-30 on sovereign power and its limits 3); student presentations on Carl Schmitt on sovereignty as exception (*The Concept of the Political*, short excerpt; *Political Theology*, short excerpt).

**Week 5 (Feb. 27 and March 3):** Wednesday workshop on totalitarianism: Tuck, *The Sleeping Sovereign*, excerpt; Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*, excerpt // John Locke, "Second Treatise of Government," Chapter 5 on state of property and libertarianism (student presentation: Nozick, *Anarchy, State, and Utopia*, excerpt), with in-class debate: The Ice Entrepreneurs; Locke, "Second Treatise of Government"

**Week 6 (March 6 and 10):** Chapter 14 on prerogative and the War on Terror (excerpt) and in-class debate on drone strikes (student presentation on drone strikes and prerogative power) // John Locke, "Second Treatise of Government," Chapter 19 on the right of revolution, *Two Treatises of Government*; Thomas Jefferson, "Declaration of Independence" (student presentation: Jefferson and the declaration as revolutionary document)

#### **First paper due at the beginning of class March 6**

**Week 7 (March 13 and 17): Travel to US (classes to be rescheduled)**

Wednesday workshop on revolutions: From Locke to Tahrir Square (reading tbd) // Montesquieu, *Spirit of the Laws*, Book 11, Chapter 6 and Hamilton, Jay, and Madison, *Federalist* 10 and 51 on the separation of power and discussion (Can *Federalist* 10 explain the mobilization of the alt-right?)

#### **4. New Questions: The Economics of Politics**

**Week 8 (March 20 and 24):** Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*, excerpts from Book I (division of labor) and Book IV (trade/protectionism); Mark Thoma, blog post // Mill, *Principles of Political Economy*, 5.11 on the limits of state action and discussion (state's power to tax) (student presentation, Dennis Rasmussen, "The Problem with Inequality, According to Smith")

**Week 9 (March 27 and 31):** Mill, *Principles of Political Economy*, 4.7 on socialism (student presentation, Richard Wolff, *Democracy at Work*) // Karl Marx, *Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844* (excerpt); *Capital*, excerpt on surplus value

#### **March 28: undergraduate course drop deadline**

**Week 10 (April 3 and 7):** *Communist Manifesto* (excerpt); Claeys, *Marx and Marxism*, excerpt on Marxism // Sunday debate: can socialism work? (Jon Elster, "From Here to There; or, If Cooperative Ownership Is So Desirable, Why Are There So Few Cooperatives?" Social Philosophy and Policy 6, no. 2 (1989): 93–111 and G.A. Cohen, *Why Not Socialism?*, short excerpt, and student presentation on G.A. Cohen)

#### **5. Modern Liberalism**

**Week 11 (April 10 and 14):** Mill, *On Liberty*, Chapter 1 // *On Liberty*, Chapter 3 and 4;

**Week 12 (April 17 and 21):** Wednesday workshop: jails and prisons (Bentham, *Panopticon: or, the Inspection House*, letters 1, 2, 5, 6). **Spring Break no class (April 21)**

**Week 13 (April 24 and 28): Spring Break no class**

**Week 14 (May 1 and 5): Holiday (May 1);** Sunday debate: Colonialism (Karuna Mantena, "The Crisis of Liberal Imperialism") **Second papers due at the beginning of**

**class May 5**

**Week 15 (May 8 and 12):** *The Subjection of Women* (short excerpt) and student presentation on Harriet Taylor Mill (excerpt); Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Women* (excerpt) and student presentation on Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*; and student presentation, Pateman, *The Sexual Contract*, short excerpt

**7. Conclusion and Course Summary:**

**Week 16 (May 15):** Review and conclusion

**Final exam scheduled for Tuesday, May 21 at 11:30-1:30 pm**

**Required books (for purchase by students)**

Title: *The Broadview Anthology of Social and Political Thought – Volume 1: From Plato to Nietzsche*

Edited by: Andrew Bailey; Samantha Brennan; Will Kymlicka; Jacob T. Levy; Alex Sager; Clark Wolf

Publication Date: March 6, 2008

ISBN: 9781551117423

The textbook must be purchased by all students and brought to class for use in class. Readings marked “excerpt” and “recommended” will be posted to Blackboard in advance of our class session by the course TA.

Helpful and reliable volumes of commentary will be placed on reserve at the library

**Participation**

The participation grade recognizes contributions to classroom discussion by students. Prepared students who actively contribute to classroom discussion and debate by asking and answering questions will receive higher participation grades. A rough participation grade will be posted to Blackboard prior to the midterm. The \*final\* participation grade may improve or decrease depending on student performance in the second half of the course.

**Attendance policy**

Attendance may be taken each class. If you have more than three weeks of unexcused absences, you have not completed the course requirements and will receive a failing grade. This is AUC policy and will be enforced in this class. Students will be informed of this status by email after the third week of absence. Written work that is due in class, or tests that are taken in class, cannot be made up or taken at a later date in the case of unexcused absences. For more information, please see the AUC attendance policy (<http://catalog.aucegypt.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=1333>).

## **Electronic devices and Classroom Demeanor**

The use of electronic devices such as cellphones and laptop computers is prohibited. There is a reason for this. (See Mueller and Oppenheimer, “The Pen Is Mightier Than the Keyboard: Advantages of Longhand Over Laptop Note Taking,” *Psychological Science* 25 (2014): 1159–1168. In a nutshell, laptop note-takers “performed significantly worse on the conceptual questions” and wrote notes that had “more verbatim overlap with the lecture.” The use of cellphones or laptops in class, or distracting or egregiously discourteous behavior, including arriving late, may result in a mark of absent for that class. Students who arrive more than five minutes late to class may be denied entry to the classroom for that session.

## **Mid-Term and Final Essays**

The midterm paper will be approximately 8-10 double-spaced pages (2500-3000 words) in length, and the final paper will be 10-12 pages (3000-3500 words) in length. Each paper will address one assigned question that will allow students to use their “toolbox” of concepts and theoretical approaches to address an important theme in the history of political thought. These are argumentative papers. Students will be called upon to defend a thesis and to support that thesis using evidence.

## **Exam**

The final exam will be cumulative. Students will receive an overview of the structure of the exam one week before the exam. It will consist largely of essay questions, plus a section of passage-recognition and short answer questions. Make-up exams will be granted only in the case of documented medical emergencies or comparable circumstances.

## **Services for Students with Disabilities**

AUC seeks to maintain a supportive academic environment for students with disabilities. To ensure their equal access to all educational programs, activities and services, students with disabilities should notify the university, provide documentation, and request reasonable accommodations. If a student has a documented disability and wants to request special accommodations, please contact Student Disability Services (SDS) at extension 3918 or [sds@aucegypt.edu](mailto:sds@aucegypt.edu) (located in the Office of Wellbeing/Dean of Students). See: <http://in.ausegypt.edu/student-life/student-well-being/disability-services>

To be accepted, accommodation letters should be presented to the instructor well in advance of any assignment or exam and/or at the beginning (first or second week) of the semester.

AUC complies with the American Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and offers numerous facilities available to help you with your

educational endeavors.

### **Policy on Academic integrity**

Academic integrity includes a commitment neither to engage in nor tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation, or deception. Prohibited acts include cheating or copying, plagiarizing, submitting another person's work as one's own, using Internet or other sources without citation, fabricating field data or citations, stealing examinations, tampering with the academic work of another student, facilitating other students' acts of academic dishonesty, etc.

Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the assignment in question. Cheating during an examination will result in a zero grade for this examination. Further action, according to university regulations, may also be implemented.

You should be aware that all written work should be submitted to "Turnitin.com," the detection prevention software.

The University's statement on academic integrity, from which the above statement is drawn, is available online at:

<http://www.aucegypt.edu/academics/integrity/Pages/default.aspx>