

PHILOSOPHY 236 A01 2019
Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy

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Office Hours: Wed 2 pm -3:30 pm

Course Description: **This is an introductory course in the history of western political philosophy.** The principal goal is to help you develop critical reading, writing and thinking skills while becoming familiar with some of the central thinkers and questions of western political philosophy.

This course is reading-intensive and it will require a good deal of writing as well. The exams in this course are a mix of sit-down and take-home exams. All exams are cumulative (i.e., they may draw from material from any of the material covered in the readings or in lecture up until the date of the exam). It is very important to keep up with the readings as we go along; the ideal is to do the readings *before* the class in which they are to be covered. It is not realistic to expect that you will be able to catch up on the relevant reading for an exam in the few days prior leading up to it. It is not realistic to expect that you will be able to do well on exams without completing the readings or attending lecture.

In addition to three exams you will be required to complete a short (5-7 page) paper relating material from the course to material outside of the course. **The paper assignment is not open-ended.** You will be given a choice of four non-academic materials; the paper will have to relate at least one of these to a reading from the course outline. **An assignment sheet with a list of the articles and a brief outline of the paper requirements is available online;** a paper copy will be distributed in October. The articles and film for the paper assignment will not be covered in class, although I will be happy to discuss them and the assignment outside of class, either during my office hours or by appointment.

Evaluation:

In-Class Mid-Term #1 (Sep 26)	15%
Take-Home Mid-Term #2 (out Oct 31, due Nov 7)	25%
Final Exam (during final exam period)	30%
5-7 page paper (due Dec 5)	30%

Late assignments without a documented illness or grounds for academic concession as outline in the Undergraduate Calendar will be penalized in the amount of 5% per day they are late, to a maximum of 40%.

Grading Scale:

100-90 = A+, 85-89 = A, 80-84 = A-, 77-79 = B, 73-76 = B, 70-72 = B-, 65-69 = C+, 60-64 = C, 50-59 = D, 0-49 = F

Academic Integrity

Any and all sources used in preparing work that is submitted for evaluation must be acknowledged. This includes websites and other students' work. **Failing to acknowledge sources that have been used and/or where in your work material taken from these sources appears constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating, as well as aiding others to cheat by posting assignments and lecture notes to note-sharing sites**

such as CourseHeroes is contrary to the University's academic regulations, and shows a profound lack of respect for myself, for fellow students and for the university as an institution of higher learning. It will not be tolerated.

The University's expectations, procedures and the penalties for academic dishonesty are set out in the Policy on Academic Integrity. You can find this Policy in the Undergraduate Calendar (<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcl.html>). The University Library has information designed to assist you with proper citation practice (<https://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/index.php>) and to help you understand and adhere to the University's expectations with respect to plagiarism (<http://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/plagiarism/>). I strongly advise you to consult both the Policy on Academic Integrity and the Library's resources.

Minimum Conditions for Writing the Final Exam

You must complete at least one of the mid-terms in order to be eligible for the final exam in this course. Students who have not written at least one of the mid-terms will not be permitted to attempt the final exam.

Students who have completed the final exam and the 5-7 page paper will be considered to have completed the course and will be assigned the percentage achieved from the components completed. **Students who do not write the final exam and/or do not complete the 5-7 page paper will be assigned a grade of "N" regardless of the cumulative percentage on other elements of the course. This includes students who are barred from the final exam because they did not write either of the mid-terms.** N is a failing grade and factors into GPA as a value of 0.

CourseSpaces

A CourseSpaces page has been set up for this course. You may access it by signing in with your netlink id. This page will be used to post announcements, to give you online resources, handouts and assignment sheets. Please note that I will not be monitoring any online chats or billboards that CourseSpaces enables. This means that **you cannot rely on me to catch and correct mistakes in postings by fellow students**, nor can you rely on me to ensure a civil tone. That said, **the University's Policy on Human Rights, Equity, and Fairness, and the Discrimination Harassment Policy apply to all activity on CourseSpaces as well as in our classroom.** For more information about the responsibilities of all members of the UVic community, including students, to create and maintain a respectful and productive learning environment please see the "General University Policies" section of the academic calendar (<https://web.uvic.ca/calendar/general/policies.html>).

Learning Supports

I encourage you to take advantage of the extensive range of learning supports available on campus. Many of these, such as the Research Help Desk (<http://www.uvic.ca/library/research/refdesk/>) and the Centre for Academic Communication (<http://www.uvic.ca/learningandteaching/students/home/centre/>) may be found in the Learning Commons, located on the main floor of the McPherson Library, (<http://www.uvic.ca/library/locations/home/learning/>).

Texts:

- Bailey, Andrew, Brennan, Samantha, Kymlicka, Will, Levy, Jacob T., Sager, Alex and Clark Wolf, eds. *The Broadview Anthology of Social and Political Thought: Vol I: From Plato to Nietzsche*. Broadview Press: 2008
- Coursepack

Schedule of Readings:

The following is the anticipated schedule of readings for this course. Dates and reading assignments may change over the course of the term. Such changes will always be announced in class ahead of time and posted online.

Sep 5 NO CLASS

Sep 9-12 *Ancients*

 Sep 9 Plato, Aristotle (notes posted on CourseSpaces)

 Sep 12 Cicero and Seneca (Anthology pp. 252-258)

Sep 16-23 *Medievals*

 Sep 16 John of Salisbury (Coursepack)

 Sep 23 Christine de Pisan (Anthology pp. 331-339)

Sep 26 **MID-TERM #1**

Sep 30-Oct 21 *Early Moderns*

 Sep 30 Thomas Hobbes, (Anthology pp. 423-490)

 Oct 7 John Locke, (Anthology pp. 496-538, 541-542)

Oct 14 THANKSGIVING

 Oct 17 David Hume (Anthology pp. 598-610)

Oct 21-31 *Early Moderns continued*

 Oct 21 Jean-Jacques Rousseau, (Anthology pp. 331-339)

 Oct 28 Mary Wollstonecraft, (Anthology pp. 790-797, 805-810, 826-827)

MID-TERM #2 HANDED OUT OCT 31 DUE NOV 7

Nov 4-18 *Nineteenth century*

 Nov 4 Sojourner Truth (Anthology pp. 964-965)

 Nov 7 Karl Marx, *Manifesto of the Communist Party* (Anthology pp. 1031-1046)

Nov 11-13 READING WEEK

Nov 21-Dec 2 *Early twentieth century*

 Nov 21 Rosa Luxemburg (Coursepack)

 Nov 25 Emma Goldman, (Coursepack)

5-7 page papers due Dec 5 before 4 pm
Final Exam will be scheduled during the exam period