



# POLI 433/533

## Fable, Memoir, Archive: Stylistic Experiments in Political and Social Theory (Seminar)

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**Instructor Spring 2022:** Dr. Simon Glezos

**Course delivery:** In the Spring 2022 term, this course will be delivered on campus and face-to-face.

### Course description:

It has frequently been said that the point of theory and philosophy is to make us see the world in new ways; to think new ideas and to be open to new possibilities. Theory and philosophy usually do this through argumentation and analysis. But what happens when a theorist or philosopher finds that current genres of writing are too restrictive; that they need to seek out new forms of expression to help cultivate these new ways of thinking? In this course we will look at stylistic experiments in theory, looking at works which seek to break out of the expected genres of scholarly writing. We will read texts which incorporate fiction, fable, memoir, archive, poetry, visual art, and photography as well as elements of surrealism, magic realism, horror, fantasy, and science fiction, amongst others. Possible texts include works by Reza Negarestani, Beatriz Preciado, Alexis Pauline Gumbs, Avery F. Gordon, Vilem Flusser, Saidiya Hartman, and Lily Ling.

**Prerequisites:** None

### Course outcomes/objectives:

- Develop writing and seminar presentation skills
- Consider alternative ways of thinking about politics
- Engage critically with texts and ideas related to a variety of fields and theories
- Develop engagements through in-class discussions and written assignments

### Topics may include:

Political Theory  
International Relations Theory  
Critical Race Theory  
Queer Theory  
Feminist Theory  
Environmental Political Theory

*This summary provides an overall sense of the course and is not considered an official course outline. Detailed course outlines will be available for all registered students on the first day of class.*