PSCI 226: Modern Political Thought
Winter, 2019
AL 124, Mondays & Wednesdays 11:30-12:50pm
Instructor: Dr. Anna Drake

Email Address: amdrake@uwaterloo.ca
Office Location: Hagey Hall 317
Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:30-4:30 and by appointment

Contact Policy: The easiest way to contact me is via email. I will typically respond within 24 hours (except during weekends and holidays). Please stop by during my office hours, or speak with me before or after class. If you can’t make my office hours please email to make an appointment for an alternate time.

Course Description: This course surveys some of the key theorists and ideas in modern political thought. This class will offer an introduction to a selection of Western texts and, through lectures and tutorials, undertake in a critical analysis of the ideas and concepts within (and between) them. The purpose of this class is not to offer an historical account of the authors, but rather to engage with the philosophical ideas and concepts that arise. In engaging in this analysis we will look at the social and political context that informed the works, as well as the implications that the ideas have for our own circumstances. Key themes that we will examine include power, freedom, equality, justice, dissent, the nature of citizenship, and inclusion/exclusion.

Pre-Requisites: PSCI 101 or 225

Learning Objectives:
Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Describe the problems each theorist investigates, as well as identify their main arguments and key concepts
- Think critically about the different arguments and concepts and identify areas of agreement and contention between the different theorists
- Develop critical analytical skills, both written and verbally
  - Develop the ability to read and process political theory
  - Effectively convey understanding of different concepts
  - Develop their own arguments, and be able to support these with evidence
University Regulations:

Cross-listed course
Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

Academic Integrity and Discipline

*Academic Integrity:* In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [Office of Academic Integrity webpage](#) for more information.

*Discipline:* A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. Check the [Office of Academic Integrity](#) for more information. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Grievances and Appeals

*Grievance:* A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

*Appeals:* A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

*Note for students with disabilities:* The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.
**Turnitin.com:** Text matching software (Turnitin®) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. Students will be given an option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin®. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course.

**Mental Health Support**
All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health supports if they are needed.

**On Campus**
- Counselling Services: [counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca) / 519-888-4567 ext 32655
- **MATES:** one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counselling Services
- Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from Student Life Centre
- Amanda Cook, Sexual Violence Response Coordinator: [amanda.cook@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:amanda.cook@uwaterloo.ca) / 519-888-4567 ext 36869

**Off campus, 24/7**
- **Good2Talk:** Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-433 ext. 6880
- **Here 24/7:** Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- **OK2BME:** set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online at the Faculty of ARTS [website](https://www.uwaterloo.ca/faculty-of-arts/)
Download [UWaterloo and regional mental health resources (PDF)](https://www.uwaterloo.ca/CampusLife/Health/mentalhealth)
Download the [WatSafe app](https://watsafe.com/) to your phone to quickly access mental health support information

**Texts:**
Books available for purchase at the University of Waterloo bookstore:


Other editions—provided they are unabridged—are also acceptable.
Available on LEARN:
Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, “Estranged Labor” in *The Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844*


All texts are required readings.

**Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:**

**Format:**
This is a lecture course. Students are expected to complete the assigned readings before class.

**Course Requirements and Assessment:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Worth</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Monday February 11(^{th})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis and Essay Structure</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Monday March 18(^{th})</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam # 2</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Wednesday April 3(^{rd})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Monday April 8(^{th})</td>
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**Assignments:**

**Thesis and Structure**
Students will submit their thesis, as well as an overview of how they plan to structure their final essay. The purpose of this is to ensure that arguments for the final essay are fully-developed and that the argument is one that you can successfully develop in a short essay. You will receive comments that you are expected to take into consideration as you write the final essay.  
**Due: Monday March 18\(^{th}\) (uploaded to LEARN by 10am)**
*Students who would like feedback on this assignment earlier may submit before the due date*

**Essay**
Students are required to write a 2500 word essay. This essay will be a close analytical reading of one or more of the texts  *(no outside sources are permitted)*. A list of essay questions will be distributed in class and further details will follow. Papers will (in addition to content, organization, and style) be graded for engagement with the central issues of the course and of the texts, level of critical analysis, and development of your own argument.  
**Due: Monday April 8\(^{th}\) (10am in the PSCI dropbox (hard copy) AND uploaded to LEARN)**
Tests & Examinations:
There will be 2 in-class exams: Monday February 11th and Monday April 3rd. Details of these will be discussed in class. Each exam will cover both assigned readings and lecture material. The second exam focuses on material after the first exam (although students may have the option of drawing from material taught in the first half of the course). If you miss an exam (for reasons noted below) you must contact me ASAP. Failure to do so within 24 hours after the exam may result in a “0.”

Late Policy:
Assignments are subject to a 5% per day late penalty. This INCLUDES weekend days. If students require an extension (see policy below) please contact me as soon as possible. Failure to do so within 48 hours after the assignment deadline may result in denial of an extension/forfeiting the assignment.

Please note you are required to submit a hard copy of the Final Essay (in addition to uploading it to LEARN). If you do not submit a hard copy within 24 hours of submitting your e-copy I will deduct a 5% penalty.

Policy on Extensions:
Extensions will be granted for documented medical (physical or mental health) or compassionate reasons only. Please speak with me as soon as possible and, if you can, before the assignment is due. Please note that verification of illness forms required by UW will cost you $20.

The student success office and the writing centre offer a number of workshops and one-on-one sessions. Counselling services offers a variety of free resources, including coping skills workshops and crisis support.

https://uwaterloo.ca/student-success/
https://uwaterloo.ca/writing-centre/
https://uwaterloo.ca/counselling-services/node/1
https://uwaterloo.ca/health-services/mental-health-services

Extensions will not be granted for a heavy workload or for computer problems. It is strongly recommended that students use a program such as dropbox to continually back up their files.

Care obligations:
If you have an unexpected care obligation during lectures (i.e: unable to find child care on a PD day) you are welcome to bring the person under your care with you to class—and to office hours).
Course Schedule:

Week 1:
Monday Jan 7th
Introduction (no assigned readings)

Wednesday Jan 9th
Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*: Chapter 13

Week 2:
Monday Jan 14th
Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*: Chapters 14-17

Wednesday Jan 16th

Week 3:
Monday Jan 21st
Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*: Chapters 23-26

Wednesday Jan 23rd
John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*: Chapters 1-4

Week 4:
Monday Jan 28th
John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*: Chapters 5-6

Wednesday Jan 30th
John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*: Chapters 7-9
Week 5:
Monday Feb 4th

Wednesday Feb 6th
Exam review and essay-writing workshop. Please complete the essay writing & academic integrity exercise slides on LEARN.

Week 6:
Monday Feb 11th

* * * Exam #1 * * *

Wednesday Feb 13th

READING WEEK: FEBRUARY 18th-22nd

Week 7:
Monday Feb 25th

Wednesday Feb 27th

Week 8:
Monday March 4th

Wednesday March 6th
John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*: Chapter 1-Chapter 2, page 51 (at the break in paragraphs)
Week 9:

Monday March 11th

Wednesday March 13th
John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*: Chapter 4

Week 10:

Monday March 18th

Wednesday March 20th
Karl Marx, “Estranged Labor” in *The Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844*

Week 11:

Monday March 25th
Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*: Sections 1 & 2

Wednesday March 27th
Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*: Sections 3 & 4

Week 12:

Monday April 1st

Wednesday April 3rd

* * * Exam #2 * * *

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