

PSCI 226: Classics in Political Thought 2

Winter, 2015

RCH 112, Tuesdays and Fridays 10-11:20am

Instructor: Dr. Anna Drake

Email Address: amdrake@uwaterloo.ca

Office Location: Hagey Hall 317

Office Hours: Tuesdays 3-5pm and by appointment

Contact Policy:

The easiest way to contact me is via email. I will typically respond within 24 hours (although this may not always apply during weekends and holidays). Please feel free to stop by during my office hours, or to speak with me before or after class. If you can't make my office hours you can always email me 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 courses:

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:

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.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. 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,
[Student Discipline http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm) .

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,
[Student Petitions http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm).

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals,
[Student Appeals http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm).

[Academic Integrity website \(Arts\): http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.htm](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.htm)

[Academic Integrity Office \(uWaterloo\): http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/)

Turnitin.com: Plagiarism detection 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. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about the arrangements for the use of Turnitin in this course.

Note: students who do not wish to use this software must contact the instructor to make alternative arrangements (such as outlines, drafts, an oral presentation of the material) by Tuesday January 21st

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

Note for students with disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, 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 OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

Texts:

Books available for purchase at the University of Waterloo bookstore (these are also on 3-hour reserve at the Dana Porter Library):

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Oxford University Press, 2008

John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*, Hackett, 1980

Thomas Paine *Common Sense*, Oxford University Press, 2008

Jean–Jacques Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*, Oxford University Press, 2009

Jean–Jacques Rousseau, *Discourse on Political Economy and The Social Contract*, Oxford University Press, 2008

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty and Other Essays*, Oxford University Press, 2008

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*, Oxford University Press, 2008

Other editions—provided they are unabridged—are also acceptable.

Available on LEARN and e-reserve:

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:

While this is a lecture course, student engagement is important. Students are expected to attend classes having completed the assigned readings and prepared to engage with the material. Please bring the week’s reading to class as a reference. To do well in this course it is important that students keep up with the readings and attend lectures regularly.

Course Requirements and Assessment:

Assignment:	Worth:	Due:
Analytical Reading Assignment	15%	Friday January 30 th
Midterm exam	25%	Friday February 13 th
Thesis and Essay Structure	5%	Friday March 20 th
Final exam (in-class	25%	Monday April 6 th
Essay	30%	Monday April 13 th

Assignments:

Analytical Reading Assignment

Students will write one analytical close reading assignment, in which students will define and explain the significance of a short passage from the assigned readings (to be distributed in class along with further instructions). We will go over an example of how to complete this assignment in class.

Due: Friday January 30th (in class AND uploaded to LEARN)

**This assignment will not be accepted after a week. Late penalties apply until this cutoff.*

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: Friday March 20th (in class)

**Students who would like feedback on this assignment earlier may submit before the due date*

Essay

Students are required to write an 8 page (double-spaced; standard font and margins) essay (approximately 2500 words). 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, and for the level of critical analysis.

Due: Monday April 13th (by 4pm in the PSCI dropbox (hard copy) AND uploaded to LEARN)

Tests & Examinations:

Midterm Exam (To be written in class Friday February 13th)

Students will write an in-class midterm exam. The format will be short answer (critical analysis) and a short essay question.

Final Exam (to be written in class Monday April 6th)

Students will write an in-class final exam. The format will resemble that of the midterm exam.

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 after 48 hours may result in denial of an extension/forfeiting the assignment. The analytical reading assignment will not be accepted after a week.

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.

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.

Course Schedule:

Week 1:

Tuesday Jan 6th

Introduction (no assigned readings)

Friday Jan 9th

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*: Chapter 13

Week 2:

Tuesday Jan 13th

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*: Chapters 14-17

Friday Jan 16th

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*: Chapters 18-22

Week 3:

Tuesday Jan 20th

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*: Chapters 23-26

Friday Jan 23rd

John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*: Chapters 1-4

Week 4:

Tuesday Jan 27th

John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*: Chapters 5-6

Friday Jan 30th

John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*: Chapters 7-9

Week 5:

Tuesday Feb 3rd

John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*: Chapters 10-13

Friday Feb 6th

Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*, pages 3-35

Week 6:

Tuesday Feb 10th

Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*, pages 36-59

Friday Feb 13th

MIDTERM EXAM

****Reading Week Feb 16-20th****

Week 7:

Tuesday Feb 24th

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*: Preface and Part 1

Friday Feb 27th

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*: Part 2

Week 8:

Tuesday March 3rd

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Social Contract*: Book 1

Friday March 6th

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Social Contract*: Book 2

Week 9:

Tuesday March 10th

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*: Chapter 1-Chapter 2, page 51 (at the break in paragraphs)

Friday March 13th

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*: Chapter 2, page 51-Chapter 3

Week 10:

Tuesday March 17th

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*: Chapter 4

Friday March 20th

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*: Chapter 5

Week 11:

Tuesday March 24th

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

Friday March 27th

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*: Sections 1 & 2

Week 12:

Tuesday March 31st

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*: Sections 3 & 4

Friday April 3rd

No class (University Holiday)

Week 13:

Monday April 6th

FINAL EXAM