

PSCI 226: Classics in Political Thought 2

Winter, 2014

RCH 211, Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-11:20am

Instructor: Dr. Anna Drake

Email Address: amdrake@uwaterloo.ca

Office Location: Hagey Hall 317

Office Hours: Thursdays 1:30-3:30 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.

Teaching Assistant:

Elnaz Borandeh

eborande@uwaterloo.ca

Office Hours: TBA

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.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

[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

Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Oxford University Press, 2008

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

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%	Thursday January 30 th
Midterm	20%	Thursday February 13 th
Thesis and Essay Structure	5%	Thursday March 20 th
Essay	30%	Monday April 7 th
Final exam	30%	Final exam period (date TBA)

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: Thursday January 30th (in class)

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: Thursday 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 a 10 page (double-spaced; standard font and margins) essay (approximately 3100-3200 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 7th (by 4pm in the PSCI dropbox (hard copy) and an electronic copy in the Turnitin dropbox on LEARN)

Tests & Examinations:

Midterm Exam (To be written in class Thursday 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

There will be a 2.5 hour final exam scheduled during the exam period. The exam will cover material from the entire term. The format will resemble that of the midterm exam (with more questions and a longer essay question). Further details will be announced in class.

Late Policy:

The essay and short assignments are subject to a 5% per day late penalty. This INCLUDES weekend days. If for any reason you complete an assignment late on a weekend email me proof of completion to “stop the clock”; the electronic document will be checked against the hard copy that you submit to my dropbox at the first opportunity. If there are any discrepancies between the two copies, the latter will be used for grading purposes (and the electronic submission forfeited).

Policy on extensions:

Extensions will be granted for documented medical or compassionate reasons only. Please speak with me as soon as a problem arises.

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 7th

Introduction (no assigned readings)

Thursday Jan 9th

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*: Chapters 13-17

Week 2:

Tuesday Jan 14th

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*: Chapters 18-21

Thursday Jan 16th

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*: Chapters 22-26

Week 3:

Tuesday Jan 21st

Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*: Preface-Chapter 14

Thursday Jan 23rd

Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*: Chapters 15-19

Week 4:

Tuesday Jan 28th

Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*: Chapters 20-26

Thursday Jan 30th

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

Week 5:

Tuesday Feb 4th

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

Thursday Feb 6th

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

Week 6:

Tuesday Feb 11th

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

Thursday Feb 13th

MIDTERM EXAM

****Reading Week Feb 17-21st****

Week 7:

Tuesday Feb 25th

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

Thursday Feb 27th

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

Week 8:

Tuesday March 4th

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

Thursday March 6th

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

Week 9:

Tuesday March 11th

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

Thursday March 13th

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

Week 10:

Tuesday March 18th

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*: Chapter 4

Thursday March 20th

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*: Chapter 5

Week 11:

Tuesday March 25th

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

Thursday March 27th

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

Week 12:

Tuesday April 1st

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

Thursday April 3rd

Final Exam Review.