Renison University College Land Acknowledgement

With gratitude, we acknowledge that Renison University College is located on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe, and Haudenosaunee peoples, which is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

Winter 2019
Course Code: SDS 131R
Course Title: Social Ideas, Policy, and Political Practice
Class Times/Location:
Section 002: 10:00 am to 11:20 pm on Monday and Wednesday in REN 2107
Section 003: 1:00 to 2:20 pm on Monday and Wednesday in REN 2017
Instructor: Theresa Romkey
Office Hours: by appointment
Email: tromkey@uwaterloo.ca

Course Description
An introduction to some of the major social and political ideas of Western civilization. Attention is given to the influence and applicability of these ideas to social policy and political practice in contemporary Canada.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

- To examine various political ideologies
- To explore competing views on the responsibilities of the state and individuals
- To understand the evolution of certain social policies in Canada and the connections to political ideologies
- To examine the rise of the welfare state and Neo-liberal critiques of the state
- To help students critically examine their own political and social perspectives

Recommended Text
Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Criteria</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>TED talk papers (3X5%)</td>
<td>15 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit tests (3X10%)</td>
<td>30 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical examination papers (3X15%)</td>
<td>45 %</td>
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**Class attendance and participation (10%)**
Students are expected to attend classes regularly and be prepared for class discussions. The criteria for evaluating class participation will be based on a student’s understanding of material and the ability to contribute to the class discussions. Attendance is worth 5% and class participation is worth 5%.

**TED talk papers (15%)**
For each Unit you are to submit one paper based on a specific TED talk and linking it to a specific ideology (each worth 5%). You will select a week (one within each Unit) and you will submit a paper for that week. Your paper should be 1.5-2 (double spaced) pages and you are to use APA citation style. The purpose of this assignment is to make connections between the TED talk and the course material (e.g. concepts, ideas, theorists) for that specific week. The TED talk papers are due on Saturdays and you can find the specific TED talks for each week on weekly schedule.

**Unit tests (30%)**
At the end of each unit there will be a Unit test. The test is online (via Learn) and is 50 minutes in duration.

Here are the test dates:
Unit One test is scheduled from February 3 (6:00 am) to February 4 (11:59 pm). It will consist of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions.

Unit Two test is scheduled from March 10 (6:00 am) to March 11 (11:59 pm). It will consist of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions.

Unit Three test is scheduled from March 31 (6:00 am) to April 1 (11:59 pm). It will consist of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions.
Critical examination papers (45%)
Each unit you will be assigned a specific writing project. You are to submit these 3 assignments to the designated dropbox (on Learn). Your response should be approximately 3-4 (double spaced) pages (APA citation style).

Unit One, due February 3 (11:59 pm via the Learn dropbox)
Last name A-G
Examine the Liberal Party and the New Democratic Party (NDP) websites (provincial or federal). Where would you place them in terms of the three types of liberalism? Why? How do the political parties differ? How are the political parties similar?

Last name H-N
Compare and contrast classical liberalism with reform liberalism. What are the assumptions of each theory? What is the ideal role of the state? Why? How does each ideology conceptualize the ideal conditions for capitalism? Why? Do they agree on the role of the state in allowing us to pursue the 'good life'?

Last name O-Z
Examine the Libertarian Party website (Canadian or American). What is libertarianism? How does libertarianism fit within the different types of Liberalism (e.g. how are they similar or different)? What do you make of libertarian arguments presented on the website? Could you see this as a viable political party in Canada?

Unit Two, due March 10 (11:59 pm via the Learn dropbox)
Last name A-G
According to Marx, what are the key problems with the capitalist system? What do workers want (under capitalism)? What do owners want (under capitalism)? Why and how will we move from capitalism to socialism and then to communism? What will happen to the state? Who will lead the revolution? Who will resist this revolution?

Last name H-N
Fascism is re-emerging across the globe. Find at least three current examples of fascist political parties. How can you explain their rising popularity? Should we be concerned?

Last name O-Z
Kant challenged us to 'dare to know' and to break away from 'self-imposed tutelage'. What does this mean? What might limit our ability to become 'enlightened'? How does this compare to conservative ideology? Using Kant's perspective (or framework), can you be 'enlightened' under conservative ideology?

Unit Three, due April 7 (11:59 pm via the Learn dropbox)
Last name A-G
Anarchy is often seen as a misunderstood or misrepresented political ideology. What is anarchy? What do anarchists want (e.g. what is their end goal)? Citing examples from film, literature or
social media, outline how anarchy is represented and how these representations compare with the key arguments from anarchist theorists. Can you see this ideology becoming more popular in our current political climate?

Last name H-N
What is the free love movement? Why is marriage seen as problematic in this movement? What would the different strands of Feminism have to say about marriage (please include at least 3 strands in your response)?

Last name O-Z
Gandhi gives us the doctrine of satyagraha. What is satyagraha? How is this different from passive resistance and Thoreau's concept of civil disobedience? What are some of the challenges with Gandhi's approach? Could you live up to these standards?

Optional Questions
You have the option of swapping out your question for the following questions.

Unit One
According to McCullough (2017), neo-liberalism has 'held sway' over the last 30 years. This is certainly reflected in domestic and global social policies. Select one social policy (e.g. welfare, family allowance, or homelessness policy) and critically examine how this policy has shifted in scope and purpose from reform liberalism to neo-liberalism.

Unit Two
"Faced with unsettling economic news in 2009 and destabilizing immigration problems in 2015, many Europeans are inching their way to conservatism" (McCullough, 2017, p. 29). This trend was also reflected in the recent American election. However there seems to be more diversity (e.g. different perspectives on social or economic issues) within these Conservative political parties than one would assume. Select a Conservative political party (from any country) and outline and critically examine the political diversity within the political party. Compare the political party to the conservative political ideology. What are the points of similarities and the points of difference? How has conservatism changed (if at all)?

Unit Three
According to McCullough, there have been two 'waves' of environmentalism. What marks the differences between these waves? How does the shift between these waves represent the diversity of environmentalism (e.g. the different 'strands' of environmental thought)? Using at least 3 different current examples (e.g. social movements, media representations, student organizations, or a political party) illustrate the diversity of thought within the realm of environmentalism.
Unit One

Introduction

January 7 and 9

Classical liberalism

January 14 and 16

Reform liberalism

January 21 and 23

Neo-liberalism and Libertarianism

January 28 and 30
Unit Two

Marxism
February 4 and 6

Fascism
February 11 and 13

Conservatism
February 25 and 27

Feminism
March 4 and 6
Unit Three

Pacifism

March 11 and 13

Anarchism

March 18 and 20

Environmentalism

March 25 and 27
1. Marris, E. (2016, June). Emma Marris: Nature is everywhere- we just need to learn to see it [Video file]. Retrieved from https://www.ted.com/talks/emma_marris_nature_is_everywhere_we_just_need_to_look_for_it

Summary

April 1 and 3
Course Guidelines

- You must keep a copy of all assignments.
- The penalty for late assignments is 5% per day including weekends.
- APA citation style is required.
- Assignments will be submitted and marked online only.

**Turnitin.com**: Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit alternate assignment.

**Electronic Device Policy**

Electronic devices are allowed in class, provided they do not disturb teaching or learning.

**Final Examination Policy**

For **Winter 2019**, the established examination period is **April 10-27, 2019**. The schedule will be available at the end of January. Students should be aware that student travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting an alternative final examination time (see: [https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar.final-examinations](https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar.final-examinations)).

**Accommodation for Illness or Unforeseen Circumstances:**

The instructor follows the practices of the University of Waterloo in accommodating students who have documented reasons for missing quizzes or exams. See [http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html](http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html)

**Academic Integrity:**

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) and the [Arts Academic Integrity webpage](https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour) for more information.

**Discipline:** Every student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their own 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 Academic Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties are imposed under the University of Waterloo Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on
categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline. For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties).

Students should also be aware that copyright laws in Canada prohibit reproducing more than 10% of any work without permission from its author, publisher, or other copyright holder. Waterloo’s policy on Fair Dealing is available here: https://uwaterloo.ca/copyright-guidelines/fair-dealing-advisory. Violation of Canada’s Copyright Act is a punishable academic offence under Policy 71 – Student Discipline.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4 (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70). 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 are grounds. Students who believe they have grounds for an appeal should refer to Policy 72, Student Appeals (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72).

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

**Note for Students with Disabilities:** The AccessAbility Services office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 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 AAS office at the beginning of each academic term.

**Intellectual Property.** Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of the instructor, which can include:

- lecture handouts and presentations (e.g., PowerPoint slides)
- lecture content, both spoken and written (and any audio or video recording thereof)
- questions from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams)
- work protected by copyright (i.e., any work authored by the instructor)

Making available the intellectual property of instructors without their express written consent (e.g., uploading lecture notes or assignments to an online repository) is considered theft of intellectual property and subject to disciplinary sanctions as described in Policy 71 – Student Discipline. Students who become aware of the availability of what may be their instructor’s intellectual property in online repositories are encouraged to alert the instructor.
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 / 519-888-4567 xt 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 form Student Life Centre

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](#)
Download [UWaterloo and regional mental health resources (PDF)](#)
Download the [WatSafe app](#) to your phone to quickly access mental health support information
A respectful living and learning environment for all

1. It is expected that everyone living, learning or working on the premises of Renison University College will contribute to an environment of tolerance and respect by treating others with sensitivity and civility.

2. Harassment is unwanted attention in the form of jokes, insults, gestures, gossip, or other behaviours that are meant to intimidate. Some instances of harassment are against the law in addition to Renison University College policy.

3. Discrimination is treating people differently because of their race, disability, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, colour, age, creed, marital status, or other personal characteristics. The Ontario Human Rights Code considers actions and behaviours rather than intentions.