

Term Information

Effective Term Spring 2014
[Previous Value](#) Summer 2012

Course Change Information

What change is being proposed? (If more than one, what changes are being proposed?)

Request course be approved for distance learning mode of instruction

What is the rationale for the proposed change(s)?

Faculty member will be away from Columbus and not able to teach on-campus.

What are the programmatic implications of the proposed change(s)?

(e.g. program requirements to be added or removed, changes to be made in available resources, effect on other programs that use the course)?

Deliver of course material and evaluation will be conducted via Carmen

Is approval of the request contingent upon the approval of other course or curricular program request? No

Is this a request to withdraw the course? No

General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area	Political Science
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org	Political Science - D0755
College/Academic Group	Arts and Sciences
Level/Career	Undergraduate
Course Number/Catalog	2400
Course Title	Introduction to Political Theory
Transcript Abbreviation	Intro Polit Theory
Course Description	An introduction to the field of political theory through classic and contemporary texts and selected case studies.
Semester Credit Hours/Units	Fixed: 3

Offering Information

Length Of Course	14 Week, 7 Week, 4 Week (May Session), 12 Week (May + Summer)
Flexibly Scheduled Course	Never
Does any section of this course have a distance education component?	Yes
Is any section of the course offered	100% at a distance
Previous Value	No
Grading Basis	Letter Grade
Repeatable	No
Course Components	Lecture
Grade Roster Component	Lecture
Credit Available by Exam	No
Admission Condition Course	Yes
Admission Condition	Social Science
Off Campus	Never
Campus of Offering	Columbus, Lima, Mansfield, Marion, Newark

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites

Exclusions

Not open to students with credit for 210 or 210H.

Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code

45.1001

Subsidy Level

General Studies Course

Intended Rank

Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Requirement/Elective Designation

General Education course:

Organizations and Politics

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- 1. Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they apply to the study of organizations and politics.
- 2. Students understand the formation and durability of political, economic, and social organizing principles and their differences and similarities across contexts.
- 3. Students comprehend and assess the nature and values of organizations and politics and their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

Previous Value

Content Topic List

- Definitions and foundations of political theory: Plato, Aristotle
- Political Ethics: Augustine, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Weber
- Social contract theory: Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau
- Liberty and emancipation: Tocqueville, Marx, Mill, Orwell
- Science and totalitarianism: Weber, Orwell, Arendt

Attachments

- PS2400_Fall13SylBrick.pdf: syllabus for in class section
(Syllabus. Owner: Smith, Charles William)
- PS2400_Fall13SylOnlineFin.pdf: syllabus for proposed distance course
(Syllabus. Owner: Smith, Charles William)

COURSE CHANGE REQUEST
2400 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Haddad,Deborah Moore
10/04/2013

Comments

- Returned per Vankeerbergen request. *(by Haddad,Deborah Moore on 09/18/2013 09:41 AM)*
- Charles: Please address following points and send course back.
 - Course goals are cut off on form. Please insert one goal per box. Additional boxes can be generated by clicking "Add" next to first box. Also, at first sight, this seems to be an old version of the GEC Social Science language. Please use current language available here: <http://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/ge-goals-and-learning-outcomes>. (This also seems to be the case for the 2 syllabi actually. So please adjust GE goals and expected learning outcomes on both syllabi) *(by Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal on 09/18/2013 09:29 AM)*

Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Smith,Charles William	08/07/2013 10:12 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Herrmann,Richard Karl	08/07/2013 10:39 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Haddad,Deborah Moore	08/07/2013 12:38 PM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	08/20/2013 11:51 AM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Smith,Charles William	09/10/2013 11:06 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Herrmann,Richard Karl	09/17/2013 06:39 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Haddad,Deborah Moore	09/17/2013 07:35 PM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	09/18/2013 09:29 AM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Herrmann,Richard Karl	09/18/2013 09:31 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Herrmann,Richard Karl	09/18/2013 09:32 AM	Unit Approval
Revision Requested	Haddad,Deborah Moore	09/18/2013 09:41 AM	College Approval
Submitted	Smith,Charles William	09/25/2013 10:18 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Herrmann,Richard Karl	10/03/2013 05:43 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Haddad,Deborah Moore	10/04/2013 10:12 AM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal Nolen,Dawn Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler Hogle,Danielle Nicole Hanlin,Deborah Kay	10/04/2013 10:12 AM	ASCCAO Approval

Political Science 2400
Introduction to Political Theory
Fall 2013

Professor Michael Neblo
Email: neblo.1@osu.edu
Telephone: 614- 292-7839

Class: T/R 9:30-11:18
O. Hrs: T 1:30-2:30
2114 Derby Hall

This course presents an introduction to western political thought through the lens of leading theoretical approaches to the study of politics. We examine a series of provocative attempts by the “Great thinkers” to make sense of the most fundamental political questions that confront us as human beings: are there any trans-historical and cross-cultural “fundamentals” of human nature? If so, how do they constrain the possibilities of political affiliation? If not, does “anything go” or are there other ways to stabilize our social and political relations? How are we to understand history and the ways that our own society fit into it? How do various approaches to understanding politics prioritize the relationship between freedom, order, and equality? Though this course is fundamentally about “theory,” we will frequently engage related questions of practice with special reference to recent American political events. In addition to developing familiarity with the content of the basic concepts in political theory, the course is designed to help students develop the ability to apply those concepts analytically to contemporary politics, and to synthesize them into a more coherent system.

There are four main course requirements:

1. *Participation.* I have high expectations for attendance and class preparation. In addition to you being expected to volunteer your views during discussion, you may be called upon at random. Some of these readings are dense and difficult, so I strongly encourage you to take notes as you read, and whenever possible, to read them twice and/or discuss them with classmates before the class session. *I do not expect you to come to class with all the "right" answers. However, I do expect you to come to class having thought seriously about our texts and the questions they raise.* "A" level participation involves demonstrating consistently high levels of engagement with the readings, as well as insightfully connecting them to each other, the course themes, other students' contributions, real politics, etc... Participation will count for 25% of the final course grade.
2. *Quizzes.* There will be a number of short, unannounced quizzes to check for understanding. These will not be hard for students who keep up with the readings. The quizzes will count for 20% of the final grade.
3. *Midterm.* There will be an in-class midterm accounting for 25% of the final grade.
4. *Final Exam.* The cumulative final exam will count for 30% of the final grade.

The midterm and final will both consist of three sections tracking the main course goals: 1) a short answer section assessing basic conceptual content knowledge, 2) an analytical application essay, and 3) a conceptual synthesis essay. We will elaborate on and practice each in class, in advance of the midterm.

Course Materials

All course materials and readings will be available on Carmen.

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic

misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp).

Disability Services

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

GEC Social Science Goals and Expected Learning Outcomes

Students understand the systematic study of human behavior and cognition; the structure of human societies, cultures, and institutions; and the processes by which individuals, groups, and societies interact, communicate, and use human, natural, and economic resources.

1. Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they apply to the study of organizations and politics.
2. Students understand the formation and durability of political, economic, and social organizing principles and their differences and similarities across contexts.
3. Students comprehend and assess the nature and values of organizations and politics and their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

Schedule of Readings for Class Meetings

8/22	<i>Introduction</i>
8/27	<i>Political Theory & the Modern Politician</i> Weber: Politics as a Vocation Clinton: Announcement Speech McCain: Announcement Speech Obama: Announcement Speech
8/29	<i>The Nature of Politics</i> Aristotle, excerpts from <i>Politics</i> and <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i>
9/3	<i>The Historical Contingency of Democracy</i> Madison et. al.: from The Federalist Papers Tocqueville: from Democracy in America
9/5	<i>Human Limits and the Critique of Democracy</i> Burke: Speech to the Electors of Bristol Schumpeter: from Socialism, Capitalism, and Democracy

- 9/10 *Democracy as Social Thinking: Deliberation*
 Habermas: The Public Sphere
 Fishkin: Giving the People Voice
- 9/12 *Democracy as Social Control*
 Michel Foucault, excerpts from “*Society Must Be Defended*”
 and *The History of Sexuality, Vol. 1*
- 9/17 *Foundations of Justice*
 Plato, *Republic* Book 1 and part of Book 2
- 9/19 Justice and the Good
 John Stuart Mill, excerpts from Chapters 1, 2, and 5 of *Utilitarianism*
- 9/24 *Justice & the Social Contract (I)*
 Rawls: from A Theory of Justice
- 9/26 *Justice & the Social Contract (II)*
 Nozick: from Anarchy, State, Utopia
- 10/1 *Global Justice*
 Thomas Nagel, “The Problem of Global Justice”
- 10/3 *Beyond Justice*
 Nietzsche, *Genealogy of Morality*, First Essay
- 10/8 **Midterm**
- 10/10 *Politics, Human Nature, & Religion (I)*
 St. Augustine from The City of God
 St. Thomas Aquinas Politics & Law
- 10/15 *Politics, Human Nature, & Religion (II)*
 Martin Luther The Christian in Society
 John Calvin God and Political Duty
- 10/17 *Politics, Religion, & Toleration*
 John Locke Letter Concerning Toleration
 John Kennedy Speech on Religion
 Mitt Romney Speech on Religion
- 10/22 *The Limits of Toleration*
 Marcuse Repressive Tolerance
- 10/24 *Equality I*
 [Post-midterm Review]

	Rousseau:	Discourse on Inequality
	Burke:	Reflections on the Revolution in France
10/29	<i>Equality II</i> Walzer:	In Defense of Equality
10/31	<i>Power</i> Gaventa:	from Power & Powerlessness
11/5	<i>Natural Freedom</i> John Stuart Mill:	from On Liberty
11/7	<i>Contingent Freedom</i> Isaiah Berlin:	Two Concepts of Liberty
11/12	<i>Freedom as Negation</i> Philip Pettit, "Freedom as Antipower" Thomas Hobbes, <i>Leviathan</i> , Chapter 21	
11/14	<i>Freedom as an Historical Accomplishment</i> Habermas:	Three Normative Models of Democracy
11/19	<i>Class & Political Theory</i> Marx: Reagan: Edwards:	Various Selections Against Class Warfare The Two Americas
11/21	<i>Gender & Political Theory</i> de Beauvoir: Wollstonecraft: de Pizan	from The Second Sex Vindication of the Rights of Women The City of Ladies
11/26	<i>Race & Political Theory</i> Fanon: M. L. King Jr.: Malcom X: Obama:	from The Wretched of the Earth Letter from Birmingham Jail The Ballot or the Bullet Speech on Race in America
12/3	<i>Course Retrospective, Final Review, & Individual Meetings</i> [No new readings]	

FINAL EXAM

Political Science 2400: Online – No Classroom
Introduction to Political Theory
Fall 2013

Professor Michael Neblo
Email: neblo.1@osu.edu
Telephone: 614- 292-7839

Class Time: Flexible
O. Hrs: T 1:30-2:30 (Skype)
In Person: by arrangement 2114 Derby Hall

This course presents an introduction to western political thought through the lens of leading theoretical approaches to the study of politics. We examine a series of provocative attempts by the “Great thinkers” to make sense of the most fundamental political questions that confront us as human beings: are there any trans-historical and cross-cultural “fundamentals” of human nature? If so, how do they constrain the possibilities of political affiliation? If not, does “anything go” or are there other ways to stabilize our social and political relations? How are we to understand history and the ways that our own society fit into it? How do various approaches to understanding politics prioritize the relationship between freedom, order, and equality? Though this course is fundamentally about “theory,” we will frequently engage related questions of practice with special reference to recent American political events. In addition to developing familiarity with the content of the basic concepts in political theory, the course is designed to help students develop the ability to apply those concepts analytically to contemporary politics, and to synthesize them into a more coherent system.

There are four main course requirements:

1. *Lectures.* Video lectures/commentary and accompanying PowerPoint slides (for note-taking) will be posted on Carmen, under Content, twice each week.
2. *Quizzes.* There will be a short quiz each week to check for understanding. These will not be hard for students who keep up with the readings. The quizzes will count for 20% of the final grade.
3. *Midterm.* There will be a midterm accounting for 35% of the final grade, with examples and practice work available in advance.
4. *Final Exam.* The cumulative final exam will count for 45% of the final grade.
5. *Extra Credit.* You will have the option of writing a short paper as well as participating in online discussions to earn extra credit. I will explain the details the week after the midterm

The midterm and final will both consist of three sections tracking the main course goals: 1) a short answer section assessing basic conceptual content knowledge, 2) an analytical application essay, and 3) a conceptual synthesis essay. We will elaborate on and practice each “in class,” in advance of the midterm.

Course Materials

All course materials and readings will be available on Carmen.

Communication and Discussion

Starting in week three each week on the Discussion tab of Carmen we will post a topic for discussion. Participating in this forum is encouraged but not required. However, students who participate consistently and constructively will be eligible for one or two extra credit percentage points added to their final grade at the end of the semester. (Other opportunities for extra credit may also be offered during the semester.) We will use emails and News items on Carmen to communicate with students in the class. Please check Carmen frequently throughout the semester.

You should feel free to email Prof. Neblo with any questions about course materials or logistics. Please treat your email as a professional correspondence and be as clear and specific as possible. Because of the online format of this course, we receive many emails and can only respond effectively if we understand your inquiry. Prof. Neblo will be available for both office and online (via Skype) office hours.

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 Schumpeter: from *Socialism, Capitalism, and Democracy*
- 9/5 *Human Nature and the Function of Politics*
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 Fishkin: Giving the People Voice
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 and *The History of Sexuality, Vol. 1*
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- 9/19 *Justice and the Good*
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- 9/24 *Justice & the Social Contract (I)*
 Rawls: from *A Theory of Justice*
- 9/26 *Justice & the Social Contract (II)*
 Nozick: from *Anarchy, State, Utopia*
- 10/1 *Global Justice*
 Thomas Nagel, “The Problem of Global Justice”
- 10/3 *Beyond Justice*
 Nietzsche, *Genealogy of Morality*, First Essay
- 10/8 **The MIDTERM EXAM will be available on Carmen between Tuesday, Oct. 8, at noon and Thursday, Oct 10, at midnight.**
- 10/10 *Politics, Human Nature, & Religion (I)*
 [Post-midterm Review]
 St. Augustine from *The City of God*
 St. Thomas Aquinas *Politics & Law*
- 10/15 *Politics, Human Nature, & Religion (II)*
 Martin Luther *The Christian in Society*
 John Calvin *God and Political Duty*
- 10/17 *Politics, Religion, & Toleration*
 John Locke *Letter Concerning Toleration*
 John Kennedy *Speech on Religion*
 Mitt Romney *Speech on Religion*

10/22	<i>The Limits of Toleration</i> Marcuse	Repressive Tolerance
10/24	<i>Equality I</i> Rousseau: Burke:	Discourse on Inequality Reflections on the Revolution in France
10/29	<i>Equality II</i> Walzer:	In Defense of Equality
10/31	<i>Power</i> Gaventa:	from Power & Powerlessness
11/5	<i>Natural Freedom</i> John Stuart Mill:	from On Liberty
11/7	<i>Contingent Freedom</i> Isaiah Berlin:	Two Concepts of Liberty
11/12	<i>Freedom as Negation</i> Philip Pettit, "Freedom as Antipower" Thomas Hobbes, <i>Leviathan</i> , Chapter 21	
11/14	<i>Freedom as an Historical Accomplishment</i> Habermas:	Three Normative Models of Democracy
11/19	<i>Class & Political Theory</i> Marx: Reagan: Edwards:	Various Selections Against Class Warfare The Two Americas
11/21	<i>Gender & Political Theory</i> de Beauvoir: Wollstonecraft: de Pizan	from The Second Sex Vindication of the Rights of Women The City of Ladies
11/26	<i>Race & Political Theory</i> Fanon: M. L. King Jr.: Malcom X: Obama:	from The Wretched of the Earth Letter from Birmingham Jail The Ballot or the Bullet Speech on Race in America
12/3	<i>Course Retrospective, Final Review, & Individual Meetings</i> [No new readings]	

The FINAL EXAM will be available on Carmen between THURSDAY, December 6th, at 8 a.m. and FRIDAY, December 7th, at 11pm.