

Modern and Contemporary Political Thought
Political Science 352
Spring 2007

Monday, Wednesday
5:00 to 6:15, MW
206 Kinard

Instructor: Dr. Michael Lipscomb
336 Bancroft
Work phone: 323 – 4666
Email: lipscombm@winthrop.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday, 11:00 to
12:30; Wednesday, 2 to 3:30; and
by appointment.

I. Goals of the Course

This course is part of a two part sequence (along with Political Science 351) which selectively surveys major texts that have been crucial in the development of western political theory. Specifically, Political Science 352 surveys texts in modern and contemporary western political thought, including works by Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Marx, Nietzsche, Foucault, Wittig, De Beauvoir, and DuBois. By reading, discussing and writing about the texts selected for this class, we will encounter many of the terms and concepts that provide the foundation for the way that we think, talk, and argue about politics. Critically examining how these terms and concepts have been used over time, in various historical contexts, will permit us a more sophisticated understanding of how these various terms and concepts function in current political discussions. By cultivating such an understanding, we can improve our ability to participate, as both speakers and listeners, in a broad range of political conversations, crucial skills for our role as adult citizens.

II. Required Texts

- 1) Hobbes, *Leviathan*, edited by Richard E. Flathman and David Johnston, Norton Critical Edition, W.W. Norton, 1997.
- 2) Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*, edited by C. B. Macpherson, Hackett Publishing, 1980.
- 3) Rousseau, *Rousseau's Political Writings*, edited by Allan Ritter and Julia Conaway Bondanella, Norton Critical Edition, W.W. Norton, 1988.
- 4) Marx, *The Marx-Engels Reader*, edited by Robert Tucker, W.W. Norton, 1994.
- 5) Nietzsche, *The Portable Nietzsche*, edited by Walter Kaufmann, Penguin Books, 1976.
- 6) Foucault, *The Foucault Reader*, edited by Paul Rabinow, Pantheon Books, 1984.

III. Assignments

- 1) **Attendance is not optional** and will be taken daily. I will excuse absences because of religious holidays, but it is your responsibility to inform me that this is the reason for your absence. I will also excuse absences caused by sickness or family emergency if you provide me with proper written documentation.
- 2) You are expected to have completed all **reading** assignments before you come to class.
- 3) To make sure that you keep up with and understand the readings, you will be given **pop quizzes** throughout the semester.
- 4) You will be graded on both the frequency and quality of your **participation in class discussions and, when appropriate, class exercises**.
- 5) You will take **two exams** during the semester, a **mid-term, take-home exam (10 pages)** and a **final, combined take-home and in-class exam (about 6 pages for the take-home portion)**.
- 6) All written work will be penalized half a letter grade (four points) for each day that it is late. This policy will be strictly enforced.

NOTE ON PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Any act of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will result in an “F” for the course and will lead to appropriate administrative action. Ignorance as to what constitutes plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty is not a valid excuse for such transgressions. For clarification about matters of academic dishonesty, students should consult Section V of the **Student Conduct Code** in the **Student Handbook**. For specific questions about plagiarism, the Writing Center, located on the second floor of Bancroft, is an excellent resource. The Center’s web page (www.Winthrop.edu/wcenter) has specific links that can help you with questions about how to cite source material and how to avoid plagiarism. Your instructor is more than glad to talk to you about these matters.

IV. Final Grade Distribution

Pop Quizzes	25%
Participation	25%
Midterm	25%
Final	25%

V. Grading Criteria For Written Work

I will grade your written work consistent with the General Education Writing Competency Rubric developed by the English Department. This rubric may be accessed through the General Education homepage. Across the University, and specifically in this class, writing competency is expected and taken very seriously. A student and a citizen who cannot write competently can neither think clearly nor communicate effectively.

VI. Schedule

Note on schedule: the instructor reserves the right to make changes to this schedule as he sees fit, depending on the unfolding needs of the class. Any such changes will be announced in class, and it is the sole responsibility of the student to be aware of such changes.

Date	Assignments
January 8	Introduction
January 10	Introduction
January 15	No Class in Celebration of Martin Luther King’s Birthday
January 17	Hobbes, <i>Leviathan</i> . 1 - 47.
January 22	Hobbes, <i>Leviathan</i> . 47- 188.
January 24	Hobbes, <i>Leviathan</i> . 47-188
January 29	Michael Oakeshott, “Introduction to <i>Leviathan</i> ,” 311 -320; David Johnston, “Theory and Transformation: The Politics of Enlightenment,” 359 – 366.
January 31	Locke, <i>Second Treatise on Government</i> . Chapters I – V.
February 5	C. B. Macpherson, “Editors Introduction,” vii – xxi.
February	Locke, <i>Second Treatise on Government</i> . Chapters VI –XIII.

7	
February 12	Locke, <i>Second Treatise on Government</i> . Chapters XIV – XVI.
February 14	Locke, <i>Second Treatise on Government</i> . Chapters XVII-XIX.
February 19	Rousseau. <i>Discourse on the Foundations of Inequality Among Men</i> , 1 – 57.
February 21	Rousseau. <i>Discourse on the Foundations of Inequality Among Men</i> , and “Jean-Jacques Rousseau: A Biographical Sketch,” 177 – 182.
February 26	Rousseau, <i>On Social Contract</i> . 84 – 137.
February 28	Rousseau, <i>On Social Contract</i> . 137 – 173.
March 5	Engels, “Speech at the Graveside of Karl Marx,” 681 – 82. Marx, “Theses on Feuerbach.”
March 7	Marx, <i>Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts</i> , 66 – 81; DuBois, selection from <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i> .
March 12	Spring Break
March 14	Spring Break
March 19	Marx, <i>Communist Manifesto</i> (with Engels), and <i>A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy</i> ; Editor’s “Introduction,” xix – xxxviii.
March 21	Marx, <i>Wage Labor and Capital</i> , 203 – 217, “Against Personality Cults,” “The Possibility of Non-Violent Revolution,” 520 – 524, “After the Revolution: Marx Debates Bakunin,” 542 – 548.
March 26	Nietzsche, “Homer’s Contest,” 32 – 39, “On Truth and Lie in an Extra-Moral Sense,” 42 – 47.
March 28	Nietzsche, <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i> , 121 – 137; Editor’s “Introduction,” 1-19.
April 2	Nietzsche, <i>The Gay Science</i> , 93 – 102 and 447 – 450, <i>Toward a Genealogy of Morals</i> , 450-454, “Letter to His Sister,” 456 – 457.
April 4	Foucault. “The Body of the Condemned,” “Docile Bodies,” “The Means of Correct Training,” “Panopticism,” 170 – 213.
April 9	Foucault, “Two Lectures” (handout), “The Subject and Power,” (handout).
April 11	Foucault, “What is Enlightenment?,” 32 -50; Foucault, “Politics and Ethics: An Interview,” 373 – 390. Editor’s “Introduction.”
April 16	Simone de Beauvoir, Introduction to the Second Sex, http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/philosophy/works/fr/debeauv.htm
April 18	Monique Wittig, “One is Not Born a Woman.” (Reserve);
April 23	Donna Haraway, “A Cyborg Manifesto” (Reserve);
	Fraser and Gordon, “A Genealogy of Dependency” (Reserve)

The Final Exam for this class is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 24th. The final must be taken on this date unless you have two other exams on the same day. Travel plans are NOT a legitimate excuse for rescheduling the exam.