

**POL320 Y1Y  
MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT  
SUMMER 2017**

**Instructors:** Ella Street and Nate Gilmore

**Lectures:** Monday & Wednesday, 6-8 PM

**Office Hours:** TBD

**Location:** TBD

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**Tutorial:** TBD

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course offers an introduction to key political themes and thinkers in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century Western thought. Through a careful examination of canonical texts, we will consider the great ideals of the Enlightenment—liberty, equality, humanity, constitutional government, and the relationship between politics and religion—as well as the various attempts to modify, perfect, and overthrow those promises and that project. This course will encourage students to consider the historical context from which these debates emerge, as well as their enduring influence on political thought and practice.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

The translations listed are the translations that each student is expected to have and to use both in class and on all assignments. Additional readings from Kant and Hegel will be provided online via Blackboard. All texts listed below will be made available through The Bob Miller Bookroom, located at 180 Bloor Street West, Lower Concourse (just across from the ROM entrance), 416-922-3557, <http://www.bobmillerbookroom.com>.

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *The Discourses and Other Early Political Writings*. Ed. Victor Gourevitch. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1997.

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *The Social Contract and Other Later Political Writings*. Ed. Victor Gourevitch. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1997.

Burke, Edmund. *Reflections on the Revolution in France*. Oxford: Oxford World Classics, 1999.

Kant, Immanuel. *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*. Trans. James W. Ellington. New York: Hackett, 1993.

Tocqueville, Alexis de. *Democracy in America*. Trans. Harvey C. Mansfield and Delba Winthrop. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2002.

Mill, John Stuart. *On Liberty*. 8<sup>th</sup> ed. Ed. Elizabeth Rapaport. Indianapolis: Hackett, 1978.

Marx, Karl and Friedrich Engels. *The Marx-Engels Reader*. Ed. Robert C. Tucker. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York: W.W. Norton, 1978.

Nietzsche, Friedrich. *Beyond Good and Evil: Prelude to a Philosophy of the Future*. Trans. Walter Kaufmann. New York: Vintage, 1966.

The following texts will be available on Blackboard: Immanuel Kant, “Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Purpose” and “What is Enlightenment?”; G.W.F. Hegel, *Philosophy of Right*, selections.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Prerequisites:** POL200Y1 / POLC70H3 and POLC71H3

### **Grade:**

Participation	15%
Midterm Paper (1500-2100 words)	25%
Final Paper (2400-2750 words)	30%
Final Exam	30%

### **Due Dates:**

Midterm Paper: June 26<sup>th</sup> by midnight

Final Paper: August 9<sup>th</sup> by midnight

## COURSE GUIDELINES

**Participation:** Your participation grade will be determined by your Teaching Assistant. If, however, you are a particularly strong contributor in class or in office hours, we will recommend that the TA push your participation grade up.

**Papers:** The majority of your grade in this class comes from papers. Please keep the following rules in mind while you are writing:

1. Papers must be submitted with the word count at the top of the first page. A 2 point penalty will be issued for every 100 words a student goes beyond the word limit. For example, a final paper that is 2810 words long will receive a 2 point penalty; a paper that is 2865 words long will receive a 4 point penalty.
2. Late papers will be penalized three points for each day they are late. A paper that is two days late will be penalized six points; a paper that is three days late will be penalized nine points, etc. The maximum late penalty is 15 %. Papers will no longer be accepted 10 days after the due date.
3. No extensions will be offered without a physician’s certificate or proof of extenuating circumstances except in cases of religious observances.
4. *Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and will be dealt with accordingly. You ought to familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto’s policy on plagiarism by visiting <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html>. By submitting a paper in this class you agree that you have submitted your own work and only your own work, and that you have not submitted that work for*

*any other course at an institution for higher learning such as but not limited to the University of Toronto. If you have any questions about plagiarism policy, please contact an instructor or your TA immediately.*

5. Be sure to keep both an extra hard copy and a spare electronic copy of your work in case your submission is lost.
6. **Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com** for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.
7. Use of Turnitin.com is voluntary, and students who conscientiously object to its use may contact the instructors and discuss an alternative method for submitting their paper.
8. Please note that students are forbidden from consulting outside sources when writing their papers and strongly discouraged from doing so at any other time.

**Final Exam:** The final exam will consist of a series of comparative essays based on the authors we read during the year. Prior to the final exam date, students will be given a set of six essay subjects that might appear on the final exam. Three of those essays will appear on the exam, and students will be required to choose and answer two of them.

**Remarking Policy:** Students who wish to appeal their grade on one of the essays may do so by writing a 1-2 page, single-space appeal in which they respond to the comments of the grader and explain why they believe the paper deserves a higher grade. The grader will then reconsider the paper in light of the appeal and **either increase or decrease** the grade on that basis.

**Writing Resources on Campus:** None of us are born writing like Virginia Woolf, so all of us can benefit from the use of editors. Students are strongly encouraged to find information about college writing centers at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres/arts-and-science>. The home page for the website "Writing at the University of Toronto" is [www.writing.utoronto.ca](http://www.writing.utoronto.ca).

**Accessibility:** The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: [accessibility.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/> .

**Computers:** Computers are permitted in this class for note taking purposes only. Any violation of this rule will result in deductions to the participation grade and potentially ejection from the classroom.

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

May 15 (M)—Introductory lecture.

May 17 (W)—Rousseau, *Second Discourse*. Epistle Dedicatory, Preface, Part I (Including Notes).

May 22 (M)—Victoria Day, no class.

May 24 (W)—Rousseau, *Second Discourse*: Part II (Including Notes) & review.

May 29 (M)—Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, Books I & II. Selections from the *Emile* (available on Blackboard).

May 31 (W)—Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, Books III & IV.

June 5 (M)—Kant, Selections from *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, TBD.

June 7 (W)—Kant, “What is Enlightenment?” and “Idea for a Universal History with Cosmopolitan Intent” (available on Blackboard).

June 12 (M)—Burke, *Reflection on the Revolution in France* p.1-146

June 14 (W)— *Reflection on the Revultion in France* p.147-250

June 19 (M)—Tocqueville, Selections from *Democracy in America*, TBD.

June 21 (W)—Tocqueville, Selections from *Democracy in America*, TBD

June 26-30—Summer Break

July 3 (M)—Canada Day

July 5 (W)—Tocqueville, Selections from *Democracy in America*, TBD

July 10 (M)—Mill, *On Liberty* Ch.1

July 12 (W)—Mill, *On Liberty* Ch. 2, Ch.3

July 17 (M)— Selections from Hegel, *Philosophy of Right* (available on Blackboard); Marx, “On the Jewish Question.”

July 19 (W)— Marx, “Wage Labor and Capital”

July 24 (M)— Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*

July 26 (W)— Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil* Part I

July 31 (M)—Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil* Parts II and III

August 2 (W)—Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil* Parts IV and VI

August 7 (M)—Civic Holiday

August 9 (W)—Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil* Parts VII and VIII

August 14 (M)—Conclusion and Review