

POL200Y1Y: VISIONS OF THE JUST/GOOD SOCIETY
Summer 2017

Course Information

Time/Place: Monday and Wednesday, 6-8 pm, SS1071
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Tutorials: Wednesday at 4 pm, 5 pm (2x), and 8 pm

Course Description and Goals

What is justice? How does political activity contribute, if at all, to a flourishing human life? What is the role of power in domestic and international politics? What are the arguments for and against political equality? Should the state tolerate a variety of religious ideals and practices? By exploring these guiding questions in the company of Thucydides, Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, and Locke, this course serves as an introduction to ancient and early-modern political philosophy in the European tradition. Our goal is to interpret core texts in this tradition through careful reading and writing. In reflecting on the affinities, differences, and tensions generated by each thinker's vision of the good society, we will also aim to develop the faculties required for thinking critically about our own political horizons.

Required Texts

Please purchase personal copies of the following texts—for sale at the University of Toronto Bookstore. It is crucial that you acquire the editions and translations specified below. Additional readings will be posted to the course site on Blackboard.

- 1) Thucydides. *Thucydides on Justice, Power, and Human Nature: Selections from the History of the Peloponnesian War*. Edited and translated by Paul Woodruff. Indianapolis: Hackett, 1993.
- 2) Plato. *Republic*. Translated by Allan Bloom. New York: Basic Books, 1968.
- 3) Aristotle. *The Politics*. Translated by Carnes Lord, 2nd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013.
- 4) Machiavelli, Niccolò. *Selected Political Writings*. Edited and translated by David Wootton. Indianapolis: Hackett, 1994.
- 5) Hobbes, Thomas. *Leviathan, with selected variants from the Latin edition of 1668*. Edited by Edwin Curley. Indianapolis: Hackett, 1994.
- 6) Locke, John. *Second Treatise of Government*. Edited by C.B. Macpherson. Indianapolis: Hackett, 1980.

Course Expectations and Format

By far the most important expectation and requirement for this course is that you read the assigned texts carefully and prior to the lecture. You should also strive to attend every lecture and tutorial session. Students who meet these expectations will have every chance of success. Although the syllabus features classic texts, we will raise and explore questions and themes distinctive to this course; external sources cannot substitute for participation in lecture and tutorial. In both venues, please try to discuss the texts in a spirit of questioning, openness, and respect. Even in lecture, we will encourage and facilitate discussion. Energetic participation would be great! Toward that end, we may send out study questions in advance of the lecture, which we will then pose during the lecture itself. For our part, we promise to listen to your questions, thoughts, and concerns about course material and logistics. Please do not hesitate to talk to us during office hours about anything pertaining to POL200.

Marking Scheme

1) Pre-Draft Assignment #1	5 %
2) Essay #1	20 %
3) Pre-Draft Assignment #2	5 %
4) Essay #2	25 %
5) Final Exam	30 %
6) Participation	15 %

Writing Assignments

In preparation for each essay, you will complete a pre-draft assignment designed to guide you through part of the writing process. The first pre-draft assignment provides an occasion for you to formulate a compelling and contestable thesis. The second pre-draft assignment is composed of two parts, both of which need to be submitted on time to qualify for the full grade. This assignment will help you to locate evidence for your thesis and to build a coherent structure supported by clear transitions—key skills for the composition of a longer essay. Pre-draft topics will be distributed at the same time as the essay topics themselves. What follows are important dates for each writing assignment:

1) Essay and Pre-draft #1 Posted to Blackboard	Monday, May 15
2) Pre-draft #1 Due	Monday, May 29
3) Essay #1 Due	Monday, June 12
4) Essay and Pre-draft #2 Posted to Blackboard	Monday, July 10
5) Pre-draft #2 [Part 1] Due	Thursday, July 27
6) Pre-draft #2 [Part 2] Due	Thursday, August 3
7) Essay #2 Due	Monday, Aug. 14

Exam

1) Final Exam

TBD (during exam period)

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to know what academic integrity means. Toward that end, you should familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto's [Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm) (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>)--the "rule book" on academic behaviour at the U of T. Potential violations of academic integrity may include:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement
- Copying material word-for-word from a source (including lecture and study group notes) and not placing the words within quotation marks
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor
- Making up sources or facts
- Including references to sources that you did not use
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment including:
 - working in groups on assignments that are supposed to be individual work
 - having someone rewrite or add material to your work while "editing"
 - "crowdsourcing" ideas and text via a Facebook/online study group without attribution
- Lending your work to a classmate who submits it as his/her own without your permission

Please also review the University of Toronto's advice on "How Not to Plagiarize":

<http://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize/>. We are serious about promoting academic integrity in this course. All suspected cases of plagiarism will be referred to the University's Office of Student Academic Integrity. It is the student's responsibility to distinguish original argument from plagiarism—though of course it would be fine to approach either the instructors or the TAs with questions about academic integrity. In short, though, do not use without attribution any material that you yourself have not written for this course in particular. When in doubt, cite a source! Finally, students will be expected to submit essays to turnitin.com unless they have made alternative arrangements their TA.

Extensions and Lateness

No extensions or make-up examinations will be permitted in the absence of official documentation of a serious illness or emergency submitted to an instructor prior to the deadline. Late papers will be penalized three percent as soon as the deadline passes and an additional two percent for every day late. More concretely, a late paper will incur a penalty of five percent as soon as the deadline passes; a two percent penalty will be added to the initial five percent at the end of every subsequent day.

Accessibility and Religious Accommodation

The instructors of this course and the University of Toronto at large are committed to accessible and inclusive learning. Should you need the assistance of Accessibility Services, or should you have a concern about the accessibility of some aspect of this course, please do not hesitate to speak to the instructors or to contact Accessibility Services: studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility and accessibility.services@utoronto.ca. We will also make every effort, in accordance with University policy, to accommodate students whose religious observances are not already reflected in the course calendar. In any case, whether you need accessibility or religious accommodation, please make the necessary arrangements as soon as possible—long before you begin to write essays or sit for exams.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

It is imperative that you read the assigned readings before the lecture and related tutorial session. Without having done so, you will be unable to follow the lecture, which will assume familiarity with the day's text. Moreover, we will invite and solicit participation; even in lecture, and certainly in tutorial, questions, analysis, and critique are welcome and expected.

- 1) Monday, May 15: Introduction; **Pre-draft #1 posted to Blackboard**
- 2) Wednesday, May 17: Thucydides, pp. 1-58
- 3) Monday, May 22: No Class (Victoria Day)
- 4) Wednesday, May 24: Thucydides, pp. 66-76, 89-95, 102-109, 111-123
- 5) Monday, May 29: Plato, *Republic*, Books 1-2; **Pre-draft #1 Due**
- 6) Wednesday, May 31: Plato, *Republic*, Books 3-4
- 7) Monday, June 5: Plato, *Republic*, Books 5-6
- 8) Wednesday, June 7: Plato, *Republic*, Books 7-8
- 9) Monday, June 12: Plato, *Republic*, Books 9-10; **Essay #1 Due**
- 10) Wednesday, June 14: Aristotle, *Politics*, Book 1
- 11) Monday, June 19: Aristotle, *Politics*, 2.1-5, 3.1-13
- 12) Wednesday, June 21: Aristotle, *Politics*, 4.1, 4.11, 7.1-4, 7.13-7.17, 8.1

- 13) Wednesday, July 5: Guest Lecture [Cicero/Augustine] Selections from Cicero and Augustine's Letter 185. [This week's readings are recommended only and will be posted on Blackboard]
- 14) Monday, July 10: Machiavelli, "Letter to Francesco Vettori" and *The Prince* [chaps. 1-13] in *Selected Political Writings* ***FINAL PAPER TOPICS AND PRE-DRAFT ASSIGNMENT #2 WILL BE POSTED ON BLACKBOARD
- 15) Wednesday, July 12: Machiavelli, *The Prince*, [chaps. 14-26]
- 16) Monday, July 17: Machiavelli, *The Discourses* (selections) Books I-3.
- 17) Wednesday, July 19: Hobbes, *Leviathan* Introduction Chaps 1-7
- 18) Monday, July 24: Hobbes, *Leviathan* Chaps. 8-11, 13.
- 19) Wednesday, July 26: Hobbes, *Leviathan* Chaps. 14-21, 29-31.

Pre-Draft Assignment #2 Part 1 due on Thursday July 27th

- 20) Monday, July 31st: Locke, *Second Treatise*, Chaps. 1-10.
- 21) Wednesday, Aug. 2nd: Locke, *Second Treatise*, Chaps. 11-19.

Pre-Draft Assignment #2 Part 2 due on Thursday August 3rd

- 22) Monday, Aug. 7th: Stat. Holiday
- 23) Wednesday, Aug. 9th: Locke, *A Letter Concerning Toleration*. pp. 23-58.
- 24) Monday, Aug. 14th: Anthony Ashley-Cooper, 3rd Earl of Shaftesbury: *Sensus Communis: An Essay on the Freedom of Wit and Humour in Characteristicks of Men, Manners, Opinions, Times, Vol. 1* [Part II, sections 2, 3; Part III, sections 1, 2, 3; Part IV, sections 1, 4; Bernard Mandeville: *The Grumbling Hive: or, Knaves turn'd Honest* & Remarks. [This week's readings will be available on Blackboard]

FINAL PAPERS DUE TODAY