Department of Political Science  
University of Alberta  

POLS 211 A2  
Introduction to History of Political Theory  
Fall 2017

Course Instructor  Dr. Ghada Ageel-Hamdan  
Classroom  Tory Basement 60  
Class meeting Days  Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10:00-10:50 AM  
Office  11-06  
Office Hours  Wednesday, 12:00 – 2:00 PM  
Email  ageel@ualberta.ca  

Prerequisite: POLS 101 or consent of the department.

Renumbered Course: Please be advised that the previous number of the course POLS 211 was POLS 210. Please note that if you have previously taken and successfully completed POLS 210, then you can not repeat the same course and take POLS 211.

Course Description

This course is a comprehensive and engaging introduction to the study of political theory which is a broadly defined sub-field of the discipline of Political Science. It reviews the origins and discuss the developments of contemporary political themes such as power, justice, state, freedom, equality, rights and legitimacy.

The course explores major texts from the history of political theory, from ancient Greece to the 20th century. It introduces students to key political philosophers including Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Rousseau, Karl Marx and Foucault and shows the different ways in which they responded to the political issues of their time. In discussing a selection of these thinkers work and evaluating the strengths & weakness of their philosophical approaches, the ultimate goal is to help deepen and diversify students' understanding of various political concepts that define the field of political science. Towards the end of the course, students will be introduced to some readings on postcolonial studies to challenge some of the perspectives in western political thought and offer alternative ideas, theories and viewpoints.

Learning Outcomes

Following successful completion of this course, students should be able to:
- Demonstrate knowledge of the origins and development of contemporary political concepts & draw the connection to our present ideas about politics.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the major political scholars and of the basic concepts that define the field of political science.
- Develop interpretive, analytical and critical skills that are valuable to both academic and real life.
- Develop written arguments using political ideas.

**Course Requirements**

This is a lecture based class that is consistently interjected with active classroom discussion as well as group presentations. Students are expected to attend classes on a regular basis and participate in class discussions and group work. All students must read the assigned texts before coming to class.

If you are absent from class on a given day, you are still responsible for the material covered during that class. Absence without an excuse will result in F for that class.

The participation grade will be based on your engagement in the readings, discussions and lectures of the course as well as on your exchange with your peers and instructor; evident that you prepared for the lecture and read strategically. It will be also based on the group work and projects that you will be assigned during the course.

**Assignments and Grade Weights At Glance**

25% Participation, Discussion and Group Projects  
20% Quizzes on Readings x 5 @ 4% each  
25% Midterm Assignment: Research Essay: (Due Date: Monday 23 October)  
30% Final Exam (December 13 @ 9:00 am)

Students should note that in all but exceptional situations all components of the course must be completed to receive a passing grade. Policy regarding missed term work is outlined in Section 23.4 (3) of the University Calendar.

**Recording of Lectures:**

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars, or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the content author(s) or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).
Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4 (2) of the University Calendar.

**Course Materials**
Please complete the readings in advance of the assigned date, and come prepared for class discussion.

**Required Texts:**
Most of the readings will be available on eclass and can be downloaded on PDF format. Additional readings might be added during the course of the term.


**Internet Sources:**

Plato's *The Apology of Socrates*:
[http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/apology.html](http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/apology.html)

Plato's *The Republic*:[http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/republic.html](http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/republic.html)

Plato's *Laws*:[http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/laws.html](http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/laws.html)

Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*:[http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/nicomachaen.html](http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/nicomachaen.html)

Aristotle’s *Politics*:[http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/politics.html](http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/politics.html)

St. Augustine’s “How Like Kingdoms Without Justice are to Robberies” (Chapter 4, City of God): [http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf102.iv.lv.4.html](http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf102.iv.lv.4.html)

On Medieval Theories of Free Will: [http://www.iep.utm.edu/freewi-m/](http://www.iep.utm.edu/freewi-m/)

Thomas Hobbes' *Leviathan*:
[http://www.gutenberg.org/files/3207/3207-h/3207-h.htm](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/3207/3207-h/3207-h.htm)
On Thomas Hobbes' Moral and Political Philosophy:
http://www.iep.utm.edu/hobmoral/

John Locke's Second Treatise of Government:
http://www.gutenberg.org/files/7370/7370-h/7370-h.htm
On John Locke's Political Philosophy: http://www.iep.utm.edu/locke-po/

(Three Minute Philosophy): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-buzVjYQvY

Rousseau’s “A Discourse Upon The Origin And The Foundation Of The Inequality Among Mankind”:
http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/11136/pg11136.html

On Jean Jacques Rousseau: http://www.iep.utm.edu/rousseau/

Weekly Breakdown

**Week 1** Wednesday, Sep. 6  
**Topic:** Course Introduction and Overview of Political Theory  
**Readings:** Course Syllabus

**Friday, Sep 8**  
**Topic:** The Pre-Socratic Philosophers  
**Recommended Reading:** Nicholson, "The sophists," pp.24-36

**Week 2** Monday, Sep. 11  
**Topic:** Socrates  
**Reading:** Rosen, "Socrates," 40-52 and Plato's Defence of Socrates, pp.5-22

**Wednesday, Sep 13**  
**Reading:** Klosko, "Socrates," pp. 38-55

**Friday, Sep. 15**  
**Topic:** Plato  
**Readings:** Hallowell and Porter. 1997. “Chapter 1 Plato,” pp. 7-51  
Klosko, "The defence of Justice," pp. 57-82

**Week 3** Monday, Sep. 18  
**Topic:** Plato  
**Readings:** Reeve, “Plato,” pp. 54-72 and Plato’s Crito, pp. 23-30

**Wednesday, Sep. 20**  
**Readings:** Plato’s Republic- Book I-II, pp. 31-70
Friday, Sep. 22
Discussion and Group Presentation

**Week 4** Monday, Sep. 25
*Topic: Plato*
*Readings: Plato's *Republic* - Book III-IV, pp. 85-102*

**Wednesday, Sep. 27**
*Readings: Plato's *Republic* - Book V1-VII, pp. 102-127*

Friday, Sep. 29
Discussion and Group Presentation

**Week 5** Monday, Oct 2
*Topic: Aristotle*

**Wednesday, Oct 4**
*Readings: Burns, “Chapter 5: Aristotle,” pp.73-90*

Friday, Oct 6
Discussion and Group Presentation on Greek Philosophers

**Week 6** Monday, Oct 9: No Class

**Wednesday, Oct 11**
*Topic: Niccolo Machiavelli*
*Femia, "Machiavelli," pp. 139-158*

Friday, Sep. 22
*Readings: The Prince, pp. 256-261 and discussion Group*

**Week 7** Monday, Oct 16
*Topic: Thomas Hobbes*

**Wednesday, Oct 18**
**Friday, Oct 20**, Discussion and Group Presentation

**Week 8** Monday, Oct 23
*Topic: John Locke*
*Mid Term paper due on Oct 23.*
Wednesday, Oct 25
Hallowell and Porter, *Political Philosophy*, pp 341-410

Friday, Oct 27: Discussion and Group Presentation

**Week 9** Monday, Oct 30
**Topic:** Jean Jacques Rousseau
**Readings:** Bucher, "Chapter 14: Rousseau." 235-251

**Wednesday**, Nov 1
Hallowell and Porter, *Political Philosophy*, pp. 417-480

Friday, Nov 3: Discussion and Group Presentation

**Week 9** Monday, Nov 6
**Topic:** Karl Marx
**Readings:** Wilde, "Chapter 23: The Early Marx: Introduction," 405-417

**Wednesday, Nov 8**

Friday, Nov 10 Discussion and Group Presentation

**Week 10, Reading Week**

**Week 11, Monday, Nov 20**
**Topic:** Foucault
**Readings:** Patton, "Foucault," 516- 532

**Wednesday, Nov 22**
**Readings:** Frantz Fanon. (1952). Excerpts from *Black Skin, White Masks*, pp.109-139.

Friday, Nov 24, Discussion and Group Presentation

**Week 12, Monday, Nov 27**
**Topic:** Post-colonialism and Political Theory
**Readings:** Nalini Persram, 2007, Post-colonialism and Political Theory

Wednesday, Nov 29

Friday, Dec 1 **Discussion group on Post-colonialism**

**Week 13** Dec 4-8
**Topic:** Course Review
**Final Exam:** Dec 13 @ 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

**Details about Course Requirements:**

**Attendance, Participation (10%) and Presentations (15%)**

Here's how the grading works:

- Participation grades are based on the amount and quality of participation. Attending classes, participating in discussion and offering insightful comments will boost your grade.
- If you are absent without a valid excuse, you will receive an F for that class.
- If you attend, your grade will range from D (1.0) for attendance with no participation to A for respectful participation that demonstrates you have completed the reading.

**Group Projects and Presentations** (worth 15% of the overall course grade)

Here's how the grading works:

The class will be divided into nine discussion groups. See the detailed class schedule for dates and topics. I’ll post discussion questions and occasional additional reading for that seminar on e-class one week in advance of these discussion sessions. These are 30 minutes sessions of which 12-15 minutes will be dedicated for presentation and the other 15 minutes will be assigned for discussion. I’ll post discussion questions and occasional additional reading for that seminar on e-class one week in advance of these discussion sessions. Students are responsible for completing the assigned readings, and thinking through the answers to discussion questions. More details will be provided in class.

**In-lecture quizzes.**
Starting from Week 4 (Sep 25), the class will begin with a 5-minute short quiz. The 5 quizzes grades will account for 20% of the final grade.

The quizzes dates are on Mondays: (Sep 25, Oct 16, Oct 30, Nov 8, Nov 20, & Dec 1)

**Mid-term Paper** (8-10 pages, worth 25% of the overall course grade)

**Date:** Monday, 23 October 2017

Hard copies of your midterm assignment are due in the political Science main office, Tory 10-16, by 4:00 pm. Expectations for the written assignments will be discussed in class. Detailed information, instructions and tips, plus grading rubrics for both papers, can be found on e-class under the assignments section.
Final Examination (worth 30% of the overall course grade)

Exam Date & Time  Wednesday, 13 December 2017, 0900 AM – 1200 PM

The exam must be taken at this time and will not be rescheduled to accommodate travel arrangements. A valid emergency or medical excuse is required for a deferral to be approved.

The exam will officially be three hours in length. You’ll answer short and long essay questions based on the material covered during the term. On the last day of class you will receive a complete list of study questions, tips and instructions. Also, I’ll give clear guidance as to expectations, as well as exam writing tips.

Grading and Late Penalties

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Late Penalties

Written assignments are due in the Political Science main office, Tory 10-16, by 4:00 pm. You may not submit your assignments electronically unless you have a good reason (above and beyond convenience) and have secured my permission in advance of the due date. For all assignments handed in late there is a penalty of one letter grade per day, with weekends counting as 2 days. Thus, an A-paper that is 2 days late will receive a grade of B. If you are ill and must miss a seminar or assignment due-date, please contact me with an explanation and/or relevant documentation so that you won’t be penalized for your absence.

But - everyone gets a grace period of two days, because stuff happens. You can use the two days for one of the papers, or give yourself one day’s grace for each of the two written assignments.

All grading is based on the 4-point grading scheme presented below. For each assignment you will receive a letter grade and be informed of its point value. I will not ‘curve’ or adjust final grades according to any pre-set formula.
Grading Scheme
Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are based on the University's 4-point grading scheme, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below. The resulting grade from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point Value</th>
<th>Grade Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Excellent: Strong evidence of original thinking; clear capacity to analyze and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter with sound critical evaluations; evidence of extensive knowledge base; superb writing and organizational skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Good to very good: Evidence of strong grasp of subject matter; indication of critical capacity and analytic ability; understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with literature; strong writing and organizational skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>Satisfactory: Illustrates partial understanding of the subject matter; demonstrates an ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material; writing and organization skills need improvement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Minimally satisfactory: Limited familiarity with the subject matter; insufficiently developed critical and analytic skills; writing and organizational skills are weak.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Marginal: Little evidence of even superficial understanding of subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited or irrelevant use of literature; poor writing and organization skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Inadequate: Little evidence of even superficial understanding of subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited or irrelevant use of literature; poor writing and organization skills.</td>
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Student Support and Academic Honesty:

Learning and Working Environment

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:
- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the Student Ombuds Office: (http://www.ombudsoffice.ualberta.ca/).

Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment
Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at
https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?P
ID=110 .

Academic Integrity

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the Office of Judicial Affairs regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook and Information for Students). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor. An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the Academic Discipline Process.

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB www.ssds.ualberta.ca ).

FEELING OVERWHELMED? (In need of student, social, financial or security services?)

The Student Distress Centre listens, offers support, supplies information and provides services:

- Call: 492-HELP (492-4357)
- Drop in: 030-N in the S.U.B.
- Visit: www.su.ualberta.ca/sdc
- Chat: www.campuscrisischat.com/
LEARNING AND WRITING SUPPORT

Students looking to improve their essay writing or study habits are encouraged to visit the Student Success Centre at 2-300 Students Union Building. The SSC exists to help students maximize their educational experience. The writing resources staff provide workshops and one-on-one sessions with students, for a small fee. Visit the website at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/academicsupport/writingstaff.cfm

ACADEMIC SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS SUCCESS:

Students desiring assistance with academic writing skills and exam strategies can access services via the Student Success Centre and the Centre for Writers:

- Student Success Centre: http://www.studentsuccess.ualberta.ca
- Centre for Writers: http://www.c4w.arts.ualberta.ca
Amendments to the Code of Student Behaviour occur throughout the year. For the most recent version of the Code, visit http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/

NOTICE TO INSTRUCTORS REGARDING PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, MISREPRESENTATION OF FACTS AND PARTICIPATION IN AN OFFENCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The U of A considers plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts and participation in an offence to be serious academic offences. Plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts and participation in an offence can be avoided if students are told what these offences are and if possible sanctions are made clear at the outset. Instructors should understand that the principles embodied in the Code are essential to our academic purpose. For this reason, instructors will be fully supported by Departments, Faculties and the University in their endeavours to rightfully discover and pursue cases of academic dishonesty in accordance with the Code.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At the beginning of each term, we ask you to review with your students the definitions of plagiarism and cheating. We are now also asking you to review with your students the definition of Misrepresentation of Facts and Participation in an Offence. Your co-operation and assistance in this matter are much appreciated.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

30.3.2(1) Plagiarism

No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student’s own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

30.3.2(2) Cheating

30.3.2(2)a No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

30.3.2(2)b No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6(4).

Cheating (Continued)

30.3.2(2)c No Student shall represent another’s substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student’s own work.

30.3.2(2)d No Student shall submit in any course or program of study, without the written approval of the course Instructor, all or a substantial portion of any academic writing, essay, thesis, research report, project, assignment, presentation or poster for which credit has previously been obtained by the Student or which has been or is being submitted by the Student in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

30.3.2(2)e No Student shall submit in any course or program of study any academic writing, essay, thesis, report, project, assignment, presentation or poster containing a statement of fact known by the Student to be false or a reference to a source the Student knows to contain fabricated claims (unless acknowledged by the Student), or a fabricated reference to a source.

30.3.6(4) Misrepresentation of Facts

No Student shall misrepresent pertinent facts to any member of the University community for the purpose of obtaining academic or other advantage. This includes such acts as the failure to provide pertinent information on an application for admission or the altering of an educational document/transcript.

30.3.6(5) Participation in an Offence

No Student shall counsel or encourage or knowingly aid or assist, directly or indirectly, another person in the commission of any offence under this Code.

More information can be found at:  http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en.aspx
EXCERPTS FROM THE CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR
FOR REVIEW WITH EACH CLASS AT THE BEGINNING OF EVERY TERM

Procedures for Instructors Regarding

Plagiarism, Cheating,

Misrepresentation of Facts and Participation in an Offence

The following procedures are drawn from the Code of Student Behaviour as approved by GFC and the Board of Governors. The guidelines summarize what instructors must do when they have reason to believe that a student has plagiarized, cheated, misrepresented facts or participated in an offence. If you have questions about these guidelines, or about the policies, please talk with the senior administrator in your Faculty responsible for dealing with student discipline—usually an Associate Dean— or the Appeals and Compliance Officer (Appeals Coordinator), University Governance (2-2655).

30.5.4 Procedures for Instructors in Cases Respecting Inappropriate Academic Behaviour

30.5.4(1) When an Instructor believes that a Student may have committed an Inappropriate Academic Behaviour Offence [30.3.2] or that there has been Misrepresentation of Facts [30.3.6(4)] or Participation in an Offence [30.3.6(5)] in cases respecting Inappropriate Academic Behaviour in the course that he or she instructs, the Instructor will meet with the Student. Before such a meeting, the Instructor shall inform the Student of the purpose of the meeting. In the event that the Student refuses or fails to meet with the Instructor within a reasonable period of time specified by the Instructor, the Instructor shall, taking into account the available information, decide whether a report to the Dean is warranted.

30.5.4(2) If the Instructor believes there has been a violation of the Code, the Instructor shall, as soon as possible after the event occurred, report that violation to the Dean and provide a written statement of the details of the case. The instructor may also include a recommendation for sanction.

Possible Sanctions

One or more of the following sanctions given in 30.4.3 (2) and (3) of the Code are commonly used for plagiarism, cheating, participation in an offence, and misrepresentation of facts:

30.4.3(2) a.i a mark reduction or a mark of 0 on any term work or examination for reason of Inappropriate Academic Behaviour
30.4.3(2) a.ii Reduction of a grade in a course
30.4.3(2) a.iii a grade of F for a course
30.4.3(2) a.iv a remark on a transcript of 8 (or 9 for failing graduate student grades), indicating Inappropriate Academic Behaviour, in addition to 30.4.3(2)a.i, 30.4.3(2)a.ii or 30.4.3(2)a.iii

30.4.3(3) b Expulsion
30.4.3(3) c Suspension

The following sanctions may be used in rare cases:

30.4.3(3) e Suspension of a Degree already awarded
30.4.3(3) f Rescission of a Degree already awarded

30.6.1 Initiation of an Appeal

30.6.1(1) When a Student has been found to have committed an offence under the Code of Student Behaviour or an Applicant is found to have committed an offence under the Code of Applicant Behaviour, whether or not Student or Applicant has been given a sanction, the Student or Applicant may appeal that decision, except in the case of a decision of the Discipline Officer under 30.5.6(2), which remains final and is not subject to appeal. In cases where a severe sanction has been recommended to the Discipline Officer, once the student receives the final decision of the Discipline Officer, the student can appeal the decisions of both Dean and the Discipline Officer at the same time. The written appeal must be presented to the Appeals Coordinator in University Governance within 15 Working Days of the deemed receipt of the decision by the Student or Applicant. The finding that an offence has been committed, the sanction imposed or both may form the basis of appeal. The written appeal must also state the full grounds of appeal and be signed by the Appellant. The appeal shall be heard by the UAB.

PROFESSOR STEVEN PENNEY
CHAIR, CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

DR STEVEN DREW
PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

* The Campus Law Review Committee is a standing committee of General Faculties Council (GFC) responsible for the review of the Code of Student Behaviour and of student disciplinary procedures.

Updated: 27/08/2015

R:G005 General Faculties Council - Committees/CAM12-13/Don't Cheatsheet Updated.docx