

POLITICAL SCIENCE BC 1013x: POLITICAL THEORY I
Fall 2005

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Office Hours:
Wednesday 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. and by appointment
719 International Affairs Bldg.

Lectures:
Tuesday, Thursday 1:10 - 2:25 p.m.
405 Milbank Hall

Course Description

Major texts of political theory from Plato to the end of the eighteenth century. Emphasis on comparison of basic concepts, such as those of human nature and the ideal society, freedom and authority, equality and leadership, methods of creating change.

Requirements

A midterm, to be given in class on October 27, and a final examination.

Readings

The following books may be purchased at Labyrinth Books, 536 West 112th Street:

Plato, *Republic* (Hackett)
Aristotle, *Politics* (Hackett)
Niccolò Machiavelli, *Selected Political Writings* (Hackett)
Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan* (Oxford)
John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government* (Hackett)
Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Basic Political Writings* (Hackett)
Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France* (Oxford)
Thomas Paine, *The Rights of Man* (Hackett)

Syllabus

Introduction to the course (September 6)

Plato (September 8, 13, 15, 20, 22)

Republic, Books I-VI, VII (through 521b), VIII-IX, X (through 608b)

Aristotle (September 27, 29)

Politics, Book I, ch. 1-7, 12, 13; Book II, ch. 1-5; Book III, ch. 1-13, 17; Book IV, ch. 1, 11, 14; Book V, ch. 1, 2, 8, 9; Book VII, ch. 1-3

Machiavelli (October 4, 6)

The Prince, dedication, ch. 1-3, 6, 8, 12-19, 21, 23-26

The Discourses, Book I, preface, ch. 1-6, 9-11, 16-18, 26-27, 46, 55, 58; Book II, preface, ch. 2, 19, 27; Book III, ch. 1-3, 7-9, 41

Hobbes (October 11, 18, 20, 25)

Leviathan, introduction, ch. 6, 10, 11, 13-21

Midterm exam (October 27)

Locke (November 1, 3)

The Second Treatise of Government

Rousseau (November 10, 15, 17, 22)

The Social Contract; Discourse on the Origin of Inequality

The Age of Revolution

(November 29, December 1)

“Declaration of the Rights of Man and of Citizens”

Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, pp. 3-105

Paine, *The Rights of Man*, part I

The American Republic

(December 6)

The Federalist Papers, numbers 9, 10, 48, 49, 51, 62, 78

Conclusion

(December 8)

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Posted on 6 Sept.2005 by

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