This is an introductory course to major works in political philosophy. It focuses primarily on the Western or European Tradition and is organized historically. Class discussions will focus on themes such as nature, justice, equality, and freedom that emerge from the primary texts. However, political philosophy proceeds as a dialogue in which thinkers continually debate their predecessors. We will engage in that debate.

The course will be conducted as a seminar. Students are expected to have completed the assigned readings and participate in class discussions. This course provides an extensive overview of the major texts. Selections will be assigned from most of the longer texts below. For discussion purposes it is useful to have the text for reference.

Three short reflective papers (7-10 pages) and a final examination are required to complete the course. There is no expectation of any research beyond the class readings.

The required texts (available at Huntley Book Store) are as follows:
If you have other editions, you may use them for this course. Many of these texts can also be found on line.

Bible Old and New Testaments
Lao Tzu, Tao Te Ching
Confucius, The Analects trans. A. Waley
Plato, Apology and Crito
Plato, The Republic
Aristotle, The Politics
Cicero, On the Commonwealth
Epictetus, The Enchiridion
Augustine, Political Writings of St. Augustine
Aquinas, Introduction to St. Thomas Aquinas
Machiavelli, The Prince and the Discourses
Hobbes, Leviathan
Descartes, Discourse on Method and Meditations
Locke, Two Treatises on Government
Rousseau, Social Contract and Discourses
Hegel, Philosophy of Right
Tucker, (ed), The Marx-Engels Reader
J.S. Mill, On Liberty and Utilitarianism
Nietzsche, Use and Abuse of History
Freud, Civilization and Its Discontents
Arendt, Between Past and Future
Recommended Readings

The following are additional primary as well as secondary sources that you might find useful. These texts are for your reference only.

Plato, *Laws*, *Epistles*, *Phaedrus*
Polybius, *The Histories*
Tacitus, *The Histories*
Machiavelli, *Mandragola*
Rousseau, *Politics and the Arts*
Leo Strauss, *What Is Political Philosophy?*
Sabine, *A History of Political Theory*
S. Wolin, *Politics and Vision*
McDonald, *Western Political Theory*
Kitto, *The Greeks*
Barker, *Political Thought, Plato and Aristotle*
Cochrane, *Christianity and Classical Culture*
Fustel de Coulanges, *The Ancient City*
Conford, *Before and After Socrates*
Susan Okin, *Women in Western Political Thought*
Arlene Saxonhouse, *Women in the History of Political Thought*
Bluestone, *Women and the Ideal State*
Wm. Connolly, *Political Theory and Modernity*
Jacobson, *Pride and Solace*
F. Dallmayr, *Border Crossings, Toward a Comparative Political Theory*

Journals of interest:
- *Political Theory*
- *History of Political Thought*
- *Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy*
- *Praxis International*
- *Hypatia*

**Course Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will gain an understanding of major philosophical works of the western tradition.
2. Students will develop an understanding of the historical debates and dialogues within
the western tradition of political philosophy.
3. Students will reflect on key concepts such as virtue, justice, freedom and equality, within the texts read and be able to compare those concepts across different authors.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

In addition to weekly readings and participation in discussions, students will be asked to write three reflective papers (about 7 pages each) and to write a final examination. From time to time short (1 page) position papers may be assigned to help facilitate discussion.

Attendance
Students are expected to attend all classes. Students who are unable to attend class must seek permission for an excused absence from the course director or teaching assistant. Unapproved absences or late attendance for three or more classes may result in a lower grade or an “incomplete” for the course. If a student has to miss a class, he or she should arrange to get notes from a fellow student and is strongly encouraged to meet with the teaching assistant to obtain the missed material. Missed extra-credit quizzes and papers will not be available for re-taking.

Scientific and Professional Ethics
The work you do in this course must be your own. Feel free to build on, react to, criticize, and analyze the ideas of others but, when you do, make it known whose ideas you are working with. You must explicitly acknowledge when your work builds on someone else's ideas, including ideas of classmates, professors, and authors you read. If you ever have questions about drawing the line between others' work and your own, ask the course professor who will give you guidance. Exams must be completed independently. Any collaboration on answers to exams, unless expressly permitted, may result in an automatic failing grade and possible expulsion from the Program.

Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Complete mastery of course material and additional insight beyond course material</td>
<td>Insightful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Complete mastery of course material</td>
<td>Proficient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Gaps in mastery of the course material; not at level expected by the program</td>
<td>Developing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory</td>
<td>Ineffective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each of the papers will be worth 20%; the final examination, 25% and participation 15% of the final grade.
Important Dates:
October 19  First paper due.
November 2  Second paper due.
November 26 Third paper due.
December 18 Final examination due.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

Sept. 4  Introduction
What Is Political Philosophy?

Please read the following selections which are on Sakai for the 1st class.

Leo Strauss, "What Is Political Philosophy"
Heraclitus, Fragments
Moira Gatens, "Feminism, Philosophy & Riddles Without Answers"
in Feminist Challenges, eds. Pateman & Gross.
Bernal, Martin, "Introduction" from Black Athena.
Jaspers, Karl, "The Axial Period," The Origin and Goal of History
Hwa & Yol Jung, "Postmodernity, Eurocentrism and the Future of Political Philosophy" from Fred Dallmayr, ed., Border Crossings, Toward a Comparative Political Theory

Recommend:
Political Theory. Special issue on What is Political Theory?
Vol 30, No. 4, August 2002
Especially see:
G. Kateb, “The Adequacy of the Canon”
W. Brown, “At the Edge:”

The Emergence of Political Philosophy

The Judaic Tradition

Sept. 11  The Bible, Old Testament
Genesis (1-27), Exodus (1-35), Deuteronomy 1-9, 12, 29-34; Judges 13, 1 Samuel 1-18; 2 Samuel 11-12, 1 Kings 12-14, Isaiah 1-6, 21, 38, 44-45, Jeremiah 1-12, 21-23.

Recommend:
- **Bible, Books I-V**
- Voegelin, *Israel and Revelation*
- P. Day (ed.), *Gender and Difference in Ancient Israel.*

**Chinese Political Thought**

Sept. 18
- Lao Tzu, *Tao Te Ching*, Books I, II
- Confucius, *The Analects* (selections)

Recommend:
- Hsiao and Mote, *A History of Chinese Political Thought*
- Wm. T. De Bary, ed., *Sources of Chinese Traditions*, vol. 1
- H.G. Creel, *Confucius and the Chinese Way*
- Chenyang Li, *The Tao Encounters the West*, Explorations in Comparative Philosophy

**Greek Political Thought**

Sept. 25-
- Aristophanes, *The Clouds,* (selections on Sakai)

Oct. 2
- Plato, *The Apology and Crito*
- Plato, *Republic*
- Epistles, 7th and 8th Letters (Sakai)

Recommend:
- Plato, *The Laws*
- Gregory Vlastos, *Plato II*, a Collection of Critical Essays
- Gregory Vlastos, *Socrates Ironist & Moral Philosopher*
- S. Okin, Part I "Plato" in *Women in Western Political Thought*
- N. Bluestone, *Women and the Ideal Society*
- E. Keuls, *The Reign of the Phallus*, Sexual Politics in Ancient Athens
- Leo Strauss, *The City and Man*

Oct. 9-16
- Aristotle, *The Politics*

Recommend:
- Barker, *The Political Thought of Plato and Aristotle*
Various chapters on Aristotle in Okin, Saxonhouse, Wolin, Strauss and Cropsey, etc. See list of secondary sources.
Brown, Wendy "Ancient Greece. Arendt and Aristotle" in Manhood and Politics, A Feminist Reading of Political Theory

Oct. 19  1st Paper Due

The Roman Empire

Oct. 23  Cicero, On the Commonwealth
        Epictetus, The Enchiridion

Recommend:
        Tacitus, The Histories
        Marcus Aurelius, Meditations
        Polybius, The Histories
        Letters of Pliny The Younger and The Emperor Trajan

Christianity and Philosophy: The Synthesis

Oct. 30  The Bible: New Testament
        The Gospel According to John
        Acts of the Apostles (selections)
        Letters of Paul to:
        Romans
        1st Corinthians
        Augustine, The Political Writings of St. Augustine (selections)
        Aquinas, Introduction to St. Thomas Aquinas (selections)

Recommend:
        Cochrane, Christianity and Classical Culture
        M. Warner, Alone of All Her Sex
        H. Arendt, Love in St. Augustine

Nov. 2   2nd Paper Due

NEW PATHS: POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY AND PHILANTHROPY

Nov. 6  Machiavelli, The Prince and the Discourses (selections)
        Descartes, The Discourse on Method and Meditations

Recommend:
        N. Machiavelli, Mandragola
        H. Pitkin, Fortune Is a Woman
        S. DeGrazia, Machiavelli in Hell
        M. Fleisher (ed.), Machiavelli and the Nature of Political Thought
        W. Doney (ed.), Descartes: A Collection of Critical Essays
        J. Pocock, The Machiavellilan Moment
Christine de Pizan, The Book of the City of Ladies  
Erica Horth, Cartesian Women

**Social Contract**

Nov. 13-20  
Hobbes, *Leviathan* (selections)  
Locke, *2nd Treatise on Government* (selections)  
Rousseau, *1st and 2nd Discourses*  
The Social Contract (selections)  
Pateman, *The Sexual Contract* (selections, Sakai)  
Mill, *On Liberty and Utilitarianism*

**Recommend:**  
Locke, *Letter Concerning Toleration*  
Ashcraft, Revolutionary Politics and Locke's Two Treatises of Government  
Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*  
Jacobson, *Pride and Solace*  
Rawls, *Theory of Justice*  
Hirshman, *The Passion and the Interests*  
Macpherson, *Possessive Individualism*  
K. Minogue, *The Liberal Mind*  
Wolff, Marcuse and Moore, *A Critique of Pure Tolerance*  
Mill, *On the Subjection of Women*

Nov. 26  
**3rd Paper Due**

**History and Dialectic**

Nov. 27-Dec. 4  
Hegel, *Philosophy of Right* (selections)  
Marx, *Basic Writings on Political Philosophy*

**Recommend:**  
Kaufman, *Hegel's Political Philosophy*  
C. Taylor, *Hegel and Modern Society*  
K. Lowith, *From Hegel to Nietzsche*  
Tucker, *Philosophy and Myth in K. Marx*  
Meszaros, *Marx's Theory of Alienation*  
Ollman, *Alienation*  
Avineri, *Marx's Socialism*  
M. Jay, *Marxism and Totality*  
Balbus, *Marxism and Domination*  
S. Firestone, *The Dialectic of Sex*  
B. Weinbaum, *The Curious Courtship of Women's Liberation and Socialism*  
A. Ferguson, *Sexual Democracy*
Revolt, Revision and Critique

December 11  Nietzsche, Use and Abuse of History
Freud, Civilization and the Discontents
Arendt, Between Past and Future (selections)

Recommend:
Kierkegaard, The Present Age
Nietzsche, Beyond Good and Evil
Arendt, The Human Condition
Marcuse, Eros and Civilization

Final Examination Due December 18