This course is a broad introduction to the field of Political Philosophy. People from every society have asked fundamental questions concerning the nature of the universe, the character and purpose of human life, and the determination of just political and social orders. Answers to these questions have varied profoundly over time and across the world. The course will compare responses by selected political thinkers from different societies. There are many rich traditions of political discourse. The comparisons will serve as an introduction to a number of these traditions as well as highlighting and providing a deeper understanding of concepts that we take for granted in our own tradition.

The course is designed as a discussion class. It is expected that assigned readings will be completed by class time and that students will participate actively in the conversations. Students are also expected to complete two papers (7-10 pages each) and a final examination. From time to time, short (1-2 pages) position papers will be assigned to help facilitate discussions. Grading will be based on an equal weighting of the above components: 25% participation, 25% for each of the papers and 25% for the final examination.

Assigned books are available at Huntley Book Store. Other assigned readings are available on Sakai

Lao Tzu, The Tao Te Ching
Plato, The Apology and Crito
Plato, The Republic
Aristotle, The Politics
Machiavelli, The Prince
Hobbes, The Leviathan
Locke, The Letter on Toleration
The Bible: Old and New Testaments
The Koran
Parel and Keith, Comparative Political Philosophy: Studies: Under the Upas Tree
Confucius, The Analects
Han Fei Tzu, Basic Writings
Descartes, Discourse on Method
**READING ASSIGNMENTS**

<table>
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<tr>
<td>September 5</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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| September 10 | The Comparative Perspective  
Parel and Keith, Comparative Political Philosophy, chpt. 1-3  
Arendt, “Introduction” to Between Past and Future (Sakai) |
| September 12 | The Bible (Genesis 1-29, Exodus 1-21, 28-34, 1 Samuel 8-11,  
Isaiah 1-7, 21, 45, John 1-8, 13-14) |
| September 17 | The Koran (selections)                                                    |
| September 19 | Lao Tse, The Tao Te Ching (selections)                                     |
| September 24 | Descartes, The Discourse on Method                                         |
| September 26-October 1 | The Questions of King Melinda (Sakai) p. 1-136, 190-95,  
202-13 |

**NATURE AND THE POLITICAL ORDER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Plato, The Apology and the Crito</td>
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<td>October 8</td>
<td>Plato, The Republic, Part 1, Part 2 chpt. 5-8; Part III, chpt 23-25</td>
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<td>October 10-15</td>
<td>Aristotle, The Politics, Bk I, III chpt 1-4, Bk VII</td>
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<td>October 17</td>
<td>Confucius, The Analects, Bk 1-8, 11-17</td>
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<td>October 22</td>
<td>Fall Break ( no class)</td>
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<td>October 24</td>
<td>Hsun Tzu, Basic Writings (Sakai)</td>
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**PHILOSOPHY AND THE POLITICAL ORDER**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, October 26</td>
<td>First Paper Due</td>
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REASON VERSUS REVELATION: RELIGION AND STATE

October 29-31
St. Thomas Aquinas Introduction to St. T. Aquinas (Sakai) p. 3-15, 435,609-22, 646-50
St. Augustine, Political Writings of St. Augustine (Sakai) p.1-21, 28, 118-133. 195. 203-228
Alfarabi, “The Letter Concerning the Intellect” in Walsh & James, Philosophy in the Middle Ages (Sakai)
Averroes, “The Decisive Treatise Determining the Nature of the Connection Between Religion and Philosophy” in Walsh & James (Sakai)
Umar, “Farabi and Greek Philosophy in Parel and Keith, Comparative Political Philosophy (optional)
Lao Tzu, Hua Hu Ching (Sakai) no. 15, 16, 43, 47-51, 78

Religion and the State

November 5
Hobbes, Leviathan, Intro., Chpt 1,5, 10-13; Part II, Chpt. 17-18, 21, 29-30.
Locke, Letter on Toleration

MORALITY VERSUS EXPEDIENCY

November 7
Machiavelli, The Prince

November 12
Kautilya’s, Arthasastra (Sakai, under T.N. Ramaswamy, Essentials of Indian Statecraft: Kautilya’s Arthasastra ) Pages 45-147.
Confucius, The Analects, Bk 12-17 review

GOVERNMENT: AUTHORITY AND LEGITIMACY

November 14-19
Aristotle, The Politics Bk IV, chpt 1-12; V, VI Marx, The Communist Manifesto (Sakai)
Chuang Tzu (Sakai)
November 21-26  The Law and Society
Hobbes, The Leviathan, Part I 14-16; review 17, 18, 21; Part II Chpts. 22-31.
Han Fei Tzu, Basic Writings
Keith, “Law and Society in Confucian Thought” in Parel and Keith (optional)

THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE COMMUNITY

November 28- December 3
Hobbes, The Leviathan (selections)
J.S. Mill, On Liberty, chpt. 3 (Sakai)
Confucius, The Analects (selections)
Gbadegeisin, “Eniyan: The Yoruba Concept of a Person” (Sakai)

December 5  Equality and Hierarchy
Plato, The Republic Part II, chpt. 10, 12-14
The Bhagavad Gita (Sakai) chpts. 1-4, 6, 13,18

December 7 (Friday)  Second Paper Due

THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD: GLOBALIZATION AND DIALOGUE

December 10  Nationalism/Decolonialization/ Neocolonialism
Fanon, The Wretched of the Earth (Sakai)
Mao Tse Tung (Sakai)
Keith, “Mao Zedong and his Political Thought” in Parel and Keith
Ware, “What Good is Democracy? The Alternatives in China and the West”, in Parel and Keith

December 12  Moral Critique of the West
Gandhi (Sakai)
Parel, “M. Gandhi’s Critique of Modernity” in Parel and Keith
Tehranian, “Khomeini’s Doctrine of Legitimacy” in Parel and Keith (optional)
Dialogue/review

Final Examination: Take home exam due Friday, December 21, 5 PM