

Political Science 200:  
PSC 200-002  
T-Th, 8:30-9:45am  
Fall 2005  
Professor Mark Lutz

Survey of Political Theory

WRI C237

The tasks of political theory are to raise and search for answers to the fundamental questions of political life, such as how should we live, as individuals and as a society? What is justice, and what does it require of us? What is good and what is evil? What is the best form of government? In this class we will survey some of the most important thinkers who have sought to answer such questions, including Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke and Plato.

### **Readings:**

The following books should be purchased:

1. Niccolò Machiavelli. *The Prince*. 2nd ed. Translated by Harvey C. Mansfield. Univ. of Chicago Press, 1998.
2. Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*.
3. John Locke. *Two Treatises of Government*. "Book Two"
4. Plato. *The Republic*. 2nd ed. Translated by Allan Bloom. Basic Books, 1991.

### **Format:**

Each session will combine lecture and discussion. It is very important that you come to class having done the assigned reading for that day. Read the material at least twice. Take notes and raise any questions you may have in class.

### **Assignments**

Assignments include:

1. In-class examination (25%).
3. Paper of 5 pages on a topic to be assigned, due in mid-November (35%)
4. Final examination (40%)

You must complete all written assignments in order to pass the course. Your contribution in class may increase your final grade by one increment. Your grade will be reduced if you have more than two un-excused absences.

Each examination will consist partially or wholly of one or more essay questions. One week before each examination you will receive details about it to guide your study.

Make-up examinations and extensions for submitting papers will be granted only in cases of emergency (e.g., personal illness, preferably with a note from a doctor; serious illness in one's family). The grade on a paper will be reduced by one increment on the scale for each day the paper is late without an approved extension.

### **Announcement**

If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you will need to contact Disability Services (DS) for coordination in your academic accommodations. Disability Services is located within Learning Enhancement Services (LES), in the Reynolds Student Services complex (SSC), Room 137. The telephone number is 895-0866 / TDD 895-0652.

### **Schedule**

1. Tue Aug 30	Introduction
2. Thu Sep 1	Machiavelli <i>Dedicatory Letter</i> & chapters 1-4
3. Tue Sep 6	5-8
3. Thu Sep 8	9-13
4. Tue Sep 13	14-15
5. Thu Sep 15	16-17
6. Tue Sep 20	18-22
7. Thu Sep 22	23-26
8. Tue Sep 27	Hobbes <i>Dedicatory Letter, Introduction</i> , and chapter 6, 10.
9. Thu Sep 29	11 & 13
10. Tue Oct. 4	14-16
11. Thu Oct 6	17-21, 29, 30
12. Tue Oct 11	Locke, <i>Second Treatise of Government</i> . Book II, chapters 1-4
13. Thu Oct 13	“ ” “ ” Book II, chapters 5 <i>Bible. Matthew</i> 6:24-34, 19:16-26; <i>1<sup>st</sup> Timothy</i> 6:9-21.
14. Tue Oct 18	Locke. <i>Second Treatise of Government</i> . Book II, chapters 6, 7 (sections 77-88); chapter 8 (95-99); chapter 9; chapter 11 12 & 13.
15. Thu Oct 20	Locke. <i>Second Treatise of Government</i> . Book II, chapters 14 and 19 <i>Declaration of Independence</i>
16. Tue Oct 25	Lecture on Marx and Nietzsche
17. Thu Oct 27	Mid-term exam
18. Tue Nov 1	Plato <i>Republic</i> . Book I (327a-336a)
19. Thu Nov 3	I (336b-354c)
20. Tue Nov 8	II (357a-369b)
21. Thu Nov 10	II (369b-383c )
22. Tue Nov 15	III (386a-412b)
23. Thu Nov 17	III-IV (412b-427c)
24. Tue Nov 22	IV (427c-445e)
24. Thu Nov 24	Thanksgiving (no class)
25. Tue Nov 29	V (449a-480a)
26. Thu Dec 1	VI (484a-511e)
27. Tue Dec 6	VII (514a-521b; 540d-541b) IX (592a-b)
28. Thu Dec 8	Lecture on Plato and Aristotle

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