

PSC 200-003
Fall 2006 Fri 8:30-11:20
Professor Mark Lutz
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Survey of Political Theory
WRI C303

Office: Mon 1:30-2:30 & 4:00-5:00
and Fri. 11:30-12:30.

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 (30%).
1. Paper of 5 pages on a topic to be assigned, due Oct. 6 (30%)
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 would be reduced if you have more than one un-excused absences.

Each examination will consist of 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. Fri Sep	1	Introduction
2. Fri Sep	8	Machiavelli <i>Dedicatory Letter</i> & chapters 1-15
3. Fri Sep	15	16-26.
4. Fri. Sep.	22	Hobbes <i>Dedicatory Letter, Introduction</i> , and chapters 1- 6 and 10-13.
5. Fri. Sep.	29	14-21, 29, 30.
6. Fri. Oct.	6	Locke, <i>Second Treatise of Government</i> . Book II, chapters 1-5 and <i>Bible. Matthew 6:24-34, 19:16-26; 1st Timothy 6:9-21.</i>
7. Fri. Oct.	13	Book II, chapters 6, 7 (sections 77-88); chapter 8 (95-99); chapter 9; chapter 11-14 and 19 and <i>Declaration of Independence</i>
8. Fri Oct	20	Exam
9. Fri. Oct	27	Nevada Day–no class
10. Fr. Oct	3	Plato <i>Republic</i> Book I
11. Fri. Nov	10	Veteran’s Day–no class
12. Fri. Nov	17	Plato <i>Republic</i> Books II and III
13. Fri. Nov	24	Thanksgiving–no class
14. Fri. Dec	1	Plato <i>Republic</i> Books IV and V
15. Fri. Dec.	8	Plato <i>Republic</i> Books VI and VII

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