

Sep. 24: Locke, 121-48, Jefferson, *Declaration of Independence*

Sep. 26: Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, pp. 3-15, 172-80

Sep. 28: Tocqueville, pp. 235-64

Oct. 3: Tocqueville, pp. 326-48

Oct. 8: Jefferson, *Notes on Virginia*, Lincoln, *Letter to Henry L. Pierce*, *Second Inaugural* (I will provide these handouts)

Oct. 10: Tocqueville, pp. 403-24,

Oct. 12: Tocqueville, pp. 599-604, 606-17

Oct. 15: Plato, *Republic*, pp. 3-22

Oct. 17: Plato, pp. 22-45

Oct. 19: Plato, pp. 45-61

Oct. 22: Plato, pp. 63-91

Oct. 24: Plato, pp. 91-113

Oct. 26: Plato, pp. 113-141

Oct. 29: Plato, pp. 141-67

Oct. 31: Plato, pp. 167-192

Nov. 2: Plato, pp. 193-220

Nov. 5: Plato, pp. 220-240

Nov. 7: Plato, pp. 240-56

Nov. 9: Plato, pp. 256-75

Nov. 12: Plato, pp. 277-304

Nov. 14: Aristotle, *Politics*, pp. 1-18

Nov. 16: Aristotle, pp. 19-34

Nov. 19: Aristotle, pp. 38-45, 62-71

Nov 26: Aristotle, pp. 71-87

Nov. 28: Aristotle, pp. 87-96, 187-94

Nov. 30: Aristotle, pp. 194-222

Dec. 6, 830am: Final Exam

Grading

15%: Attendance and Participation

Attendance is essential to overall success in the course, so all enrolled students are expected to sign in every class. **Attendance will become mandatory after the final drop date has passed.** Only one unexcused absence is permitted for each student. Every additional absence will cost one attendance mark, and entail the added risk of missing a pop quiz. Participation is highly recommended though not mandatory. Strong participation might make up for marks lost due to unexcused absences. **A failing attendance grade (i.e. more than eight unexplained absences) will automatically result in a failing course grade.**

15%: Three in-class pop quizzes on the readings

The purpose of the quizzes is to ensure that everyone attends and completes the readings. They will be based on the study questions. Quizzes missed due to unexcused absences cannot be made up.

30%: Mid-term exam:

A five-page paper on topics TBD will be due in early October.

40%: Final exam

This will consist of two take-home essays, four pages each, comparing two authors from the course. The exam questions will be assigned five days before the exam, but study questions anticipating the exam will be distributed by mid-November. Further details about the grading of exams will be discussed, in writing and in speech, as the time approaches.

Grading scale:

90-100: A 97-100: A+ 93-96: A 90-92: A-

80-89: B 87-90: B+ 83-86: B 80-82: B-

70-79: C 77-80: C+ 73-76: C 70-72: C-

60-69: D 67-70: D+ 63-66: D 60-62: D-

Under 60: F

Class Rules

For attendance, see the official policy at <https://sites01.lsu.edu/wp/policiesprocedures/policies-procedures/22/>

Bring your books to class. They will be the primary focus of the lectures, which might be difficult to follow without them.

Both neuroscience and common sense teach that the growing array of electronic devices can be distracting. **Please turn off all such devices in class. Those who refuse to comply may be asked to leave.** Exceptions will be granted only for medically-confirmed disabilities.

Please do not eat during class: however, drinking non-alcoholic beverages is permitted. Do not leave in the middle of class except for an emergency.

I cannot monitor every aspect of your attentiveness in class. However, dozing or talking to classmates is forbidden.

Violation of class rules might cost you attendance and participation marks.