

Poli 2060 - 02
MWF: 2:30 - 3:30
324 Hodges Hall
Instructor: Mr. Alex D. Cole
Office Hours - MWF 12:30 - 2:15 - Stubbs 324

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Wed, August 24 - Hannah Arendt - *Eichmann in Jerusalem*. Chapters I-III; XIV-XV
Question: Why thinking?

Fri, August 26 - Leo Strauss - "Three Waves of Modernity"
Question: Why think like the ancients?

Mon, August 29 - Iris Murdoch - *The Sovereignty of Good* Essay 3; "Against Dryness"
Question: Why return to thought?

Section 2: Ancient Virtue

Wed, August 31 - Plato - "The Apology"
Question: What is philosophy?

Course Calendar Cont.

Fri, September 10 - Aristotle - *Nicomachean Ethics*, Books I-II.

Question: What is moral philosophy?

Mon, September 12 - Aristotle - *Nicomachean Ethics*, Books III, X.

Question: Can moral questions also be aesthetic questions?

Section 3 - Modern Realism

Wed, September 14 - Machiavelli - *The Prince*

Question: What of technique?

Fri, September 16 - Hobbes - *Leviathan*, Part One: i, ii, iv v, vi & xiii & xiv

Question: What of security?

Mon, Sept 19 - No class

Wed, September 21 - Hobbes - *Leviathan*, Part Two: xviii, xxi, xxii, xxvi.

Question: What of sovereignty?

Fri, September 23 - Clausewitz, *On War*, Chapters. 1-3, 6, 8

Question: What of war?

Section 4 - Ancient Realism

Mon, September 26 - Thucydides - *History of the Peloponnesian War*; Intro, Melian Dialogue, Pericles' Funeral Oration

Question: How did we get here?

Wed, September 28 - Augustine - *City of God*, Books XI - XIV;

Fri, September 30 - Augustine, *City of God*, Books XIX - XXII. (If possible, read some of Augustine's letters on capital punishment.)

Question: Where do we go now?

Mon, October 3 - Montesquieu - *The Spirit of the Laws* (Books I, II, XI)

Question: What do we do once we get there?

Wed, October 5 - Aristotle - *The Politics* (Books I, II, & IV)

Question: Can virtue and realism coexist?

Fall Break - October 6-9

Monday, October 10- ** TEST #1 Multiple Choice Only**

Section 5 - Social Contractarianism

Wed, October 12 - Locke - *Second Treatise of Government* - Chapters 1 - 3; 6 - 7.

Question: What of property?

Fri, October 14 - Locke - *Second Treatise of Government* - Chapters 8-9, 11-12

Course Calendar Cont.

Mon, October 17 - Rousseau - *The Social Contract* - Book I
Question: What of community?

Wed, October 19 - Rousseau - *The Social Contract* - Book IV

Fri, October 21 - Burke - *Reflections on the Revolution in France* (first half)
Question: What of continuity?

Monday, October 24th - **TEST # 2 Multiple Choice and Short Answer**

Section 6: The Analytic Situation

Wed, October 26 - Rawls, *A Theory of Justice*, preface, Chapter 1
Question: How do we start again without losing sight of the real?

Fri, October 28 - Rawls, *A Theory of Justice*, Ch 3
Question: Can we alienate ourselves to know the other?

Mon, October 31 - Nozick - *Anarchy, State and Utopia* "Distributive Justice"
Question: Is any of that even worth doing?

Wed, November 2 - G.A. Cohen, *If You're An Egalitarian How Come You're so Rich?*, Chapters 1-2, 4
Question: How does Marxist thought develop in history and the life of the individual?

Fri, November 4 - G.A. Cohen, *If You're an Egalitarian How Come You're so Rich?*, Chapters 8, 10
Question: If you're an egalitarian, how come you're so rich?

****Mon, November 7th - Test #3, All Essay Questions ****

Section 7: Towards a Narrative Theory of Politics

Wed, November 9th - Camus, "Helen's Exile"; "Return to Tipasa."
Question: How do we return beautifully?

Fri, November 11th - Nietzsche, *The Birth of Tragedy* (skim)
Question: What of intoxication?

Mon, November 14th - Nietzsche, "The Problem of Socrates" from *The Twilight of the Idols*
Question: What of philosophy?

Wed, November 16th - Taylor, *Sources of the Self* - Chapters 17, 18, 20, 21
Question: What of narrative?

Fri, November 18th - Taylor, *Sources of the Self* - Chapters 22, 24

Mon, November 21st - Taylor, *Sources of the Self* - Chapter 25

Course Calendar Cont.

November 23-25 - No Class, Thanksgiving Holiday

Mon, November 28 - Discuss final paper

Wed, November 30 - Evaluations, final lecture, "Bringing it All Back Home."

Fri, December 2 - Final class period, papers due

Grading:

As of Fall 2015, LSU has switched over to a plus/minus grading scale, which will be used for grades in this course. This grading scale works as follows:

A+ = 100-97

A = 97-93

A- = 92-90

B+ = 89-87

B = 86-83

B- = 82-89

C+ = 79-77

C = 76-73

C- = 72-70

D+ = 69-67

D = 66-63

D- = 62-60

F = 59 and Below

Additionally, this course has five assignments, that are unequally weighted. They are:

Introductory Card (5%) (explained on the first day of class.)

Test 1 - Multiple Choice Only (15%)

Test 2 - Multiple Choice and Short Answer (20%)

