
POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY in Fall 2018 (PL2003B)

Course Code	PL2003B	Professor(s)	Julian Culp
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	G-L19 (Grenelle)
Class Schedule	TF: 09:00-10:20 in C-102	Office Hours	Tuesdays and Fridays 16h00-17h00, and by appointment
Credits	4	Email	jculp@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2018	Office Tel. Ext.	613

Course Description

Political philosophy forms that branch of philosophy that reflects on the specificity of the political. Why are humans, as Aristotle argued, political animals? How are they political? What are the means and ends of the political, and how best does one organize the political with such questions in mind? The course offers a topic-oriented approach to the fundamental problems underlying political theory and practice.

This course places emphasize on attentive reading and discussion of seminal texts from, among others, Rousseau, Kant, Mill, Rawls and Young, as well as on developing and exercising a discussion culture in the classroom. The course will include **lectures** and **seminar discussions** concerning key figures and texts, as well as major philosophical conceptions, arguments, and theories regarding politics.

Course Learning Outcomes

mastery of key concepts

Development of rigorous, critical thinking about the political

Competence in written and oral exposition of philosophical and political concepts

(Philosophical reading and argumentation) Reconstruct, step by step, a philosophical argument concerning one of the themes of this course from premise to conclusion

(Written expression) Write a philosophy essay, focusing on the clear presentation of a critical analysis of a primary text so as to produce an argument that answers a philosophical question.

General Education

The general education program at AUP consists of four requirements: Speaking the World, Modeling the World, Mapping the World, and Comparing Worlds Past and Present.

This course can be used to fulfill the GE 115 requirement.

Course Outline

Schedule

NB: This schedule is subject to change over the course of the semester.

Introduction

Week 1

Sept. 11 General Introduction: Political Philosophy

- Goodman, Peter. 2017. "Capitalism Has a Problem. Is Free Money the Answer?" *The New York Times* [**Distributed in Class**].

Sept. 14 Methodology and Subject Matter

- Rawls, John. 2001. "Four Roles of Political Philosophy." In *Justice as Fairness* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press), pp. 1-5 [**Blackboard**].

Part I: Social Justice

Week 2

Sept. 18 Social Contract Theories

- Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. 1762. "Natural Freedom and the Freedom of the Citizen." [**Rosen & Wolff, PT, pp. 64-5**].
- Kant, Immanuel. 1793. "The Hypothetical Contract." [**Rosen & Wolff, PT, pp. 64-5**].
- Rawls, John. 1999. *A Theory of Justice*, rev. ed., 3-15 (§§1-3) [**Blackboard**].

Sept. 21 Justice as Fairness

- Rawls, John. 1972. "Two Principles of Justice." [**Rosen & Wolff, PT, pp. 241-5**].

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- Swift, Adam. 2014. "Justice as Fairness." [Swift, *PP*, pp. 22-31].

***** 1st Critical Reply is due. *****

Week 3

Sept. 25 Displacing the Distributive Paradigm

- Young, Iris Marion. 1990. "Displacing the Distributive Paradigm", in *Justice and the Politics of Difference* (Princeton: Princeton University Press), pp. 15-24 [Blackboard].

Sept. 28 Ideal vs. Comparative Approaches

- Sen, Amartya. 2006. "What do we want from a theory of justice?", *The Journal of Philosophy* 103, pp. 115-26 [Blackboard].

Part II: Global Justice

Week 4

Oct. 2 Utilitarianism

- Singer, Peter. 1972. "Famine, Affluence, and Morality." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 300-4].

Oct. 5 Cosmopolitan Justice

- Beitz, Charles. 1999. *Political Theory and International Relations*, 2nd edn. (Princeton: Princeton University Press.) 127-9, pp. 143-53 [Blackboard].

***** 2nd Critical Reply is due. *****

Week 5

Oct. 9 International Justice

- Rawls, John. 1999. *The Law of Peoples – A Realistic Utopia* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press), pp. 3-5, 35-9, pp. 113-20 [Blackboard].

Oct. 12 Nationalism

- Macintyre, Alasdair. 1984. "Is Patriotism a Virtue?" [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 269-84].

Oct. 13 ***** Mid-term Paper is due.*****

Part III: Liberty

Week 6

Oct. 16 Two Concepts of Liberty

- Constant, Benjamin. 1820. "The Liberty of the Ancients and the Liberty of the Moderns." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 122-3].
- Berlin, Isaiah. 1969. "Two Concepts of Liberty." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 124-8].

Oct. 19 Positive and Republican Freedom

- Taylor, Charles. 1979. "In Defence of Positive Freedom." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 128-30].
- Skinner, Quentin. 1990. "The Republican Ideal of Political Liberty." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 161-71].

Week 7

Oct. 23 Universal Basic Income as Real Freedom

- Van Parijs, Philippe. 2000. "A Basic Income for All. If you Really Care about Freedom, Give People an Unconditional Income." *Boston Review* [Blackboard].

Oct. 26 Catch-up

- No reading assignment

Week 8

Oct. 30 ***Mid-term Exam***

Oct. 31–Nov. 4 Fall Break

Part IV: Equality

Week 9

Nov. 6 On Sexual Equality

- Mill, John Stuart. 1869. "The Subjection of Women." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 40-4].

Nov. 9 Socialist Equality

- Cohen, G.A. 1997. "Socialism and Equality of Opportunity." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 354-8].

Week 10

Nov. 13 Democratic and Relational Equality

- Anderson, Elizabeth. 1999. "What's the Point of Equality?" *Ethics* 109, 287-95, 308-15 [Blackboard].

Part V: Democracy

Nov. 16 The Idea of Democracy

- Kant, Immanuel. 1793. "Freedom and Equality." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 97-8].
- Woff, Jonathan. 2015. "Who Should Rule?" [Wolff, *PP*, pp. 62-6].

Week 11

Nov. 20 Deliberative, Liberal and Republican Democracy

- Habermas, Jürgen. 1994. "Three Normative Models of Democracy." *Constellations* 1, pp. 1-10 [Blackboard].

Nov. 23 Democratic Education

- Mill, John Stuart, 1861. "The Democratic Citizen." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 99-100].
- Gutmann, Amy. 1987. "The Primacy of Political Education." In *Democratic Education* (Princeton: Princeton University Press), pp. 282-91 [Blackboard].

***** 3rd Critical Reply is due. *****

Week 12

Nov. 27 Global Democracy

- Held, David. 1997. "Democracy and Globalization." *Global Governance* 3, 251-4, pp. 260-67 [Blackboard].

Nov. 29 No class

Part VI: Progress

Week 13

Dec. 4 Development in History

- Marx, Karl. "Development of the Productive Forces." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 376-7].
- Fukuyama, Francis. "The End of History." [Rosen & Wolff, *PT*, pp. 387-8].

Dec. 7 From Economic to Human Development

- Sen, Amartya. 1999. "Introduction: Development as Freedom." In *Development as Freedom* (Oxford: Oxford University Press), pp. 3-12 [Blackboard].

*** 4th Critical Reply is due. ***

Week 14

Dec. 11 "Development" as Ideology

- Esteva, Gustavo. 2010. "Development." In Sachs, Wolfgang (ed.), *The Development Dictionary*, pp. 1-8 [Blackboard].
- Escobar, Arturo. 2012. "The Development Discourse – The Space of Development." In *Encountering Development*, 2nd edn. (Princeton: Princeton University Press), pp. 39-44 [Blackboard].

Dec. 12 (Make-up Session) Wrap-up

- No reading assignment

Week 15:

Dec. 18 ***Final Exam***

Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN	Required
POLITICAL THOUGHT	ROSEN, MICHAEL ET AL.	Oxford	9780192892782	Yes

INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY	WOLFF, JOHN	OXFORD	9780199658015	Yes
POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE FOR STUDENTS & POLITICIANS	SWIFT, ADAM	Polity Press	9780745652375	Yes

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required and will be taken at the beginning of every class. You may miss up to three sessions without excuse – though you are kindly asked to inform the instructor in advance if you plan to be absent. It is the student's responsibility to make up work for the missed class and to communicate with the professor for that purpose.

More than three unexcused absences will be reported to the *Student Development Team* and result in a failing participation grade. In such a case you might also be asked to withdraw from the course. Absences may only be considered excused if they are officially excused, e.g. because of (medically documented) student illness, participation in course-related study trips, family emergency or an appointment with the immigration office. Attendance at all exams is mandatory. Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and *especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods*.

Punctuality is essential for undisrupted and efficient coursework. It is also a sign of respect not only for the instructor, but also for your fellow students. If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will be marked absent.

Grading Policy

Requirements

- Participation
- 4 critical replies of 500 words each
- 1 mid-term paper of. 2,000 words

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- 1 mid-term exam
 - 1 final exam

It is the students' responsibility to meet the administrative and academic requirements of this course. Make sure that you familiarize yourself with these requirements and that you plan your time and your work reasonably. But also remember that the readings and assignments are meant as springboards for your own independent and hopefully rewarding exploration of the topic.

Grading

The grades for the requirements and for the entire course are based on the 4.00 system stated below. The relative weights of the assessments of the requirements of this course are these:

Requirement	Relative weight
Participation	10%
4 critical replies	25%
1 mid-term paper	25%
1 mid-term exam	20%
1 final exam	20%

The grading follows this 4.00 system:

Letter Grade	4.0 Scale	Meaning
A	4.0	Excellent
A-	3.7	Excellent
B+	3.3	Good
B	3.0	Good
B-	2.7	Good
C+	2.3	Satisfactory
C	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	1.7	Satisfactory
D+	1.3	Unsatisfactory
D	1.0	Unsatisfactory
D-	0.7	Unsatisfactory
F	0	Failure

Assignments

Assignment 1: Critical Replies (6.25% each – 25% in total)

You will be expected to write 4 short critical replies to set questions that concern the readings.

These *critical replies* will guide your reading, foster your understanding and assessment of the texts, and prepare you for classroom discussions.

The critical replies should be about *500 words*. They should be submitted via BLACKBOARD as *Word* document (.doc or .docx; Times New Roman, 12 pt., spacing 1.5) by 9:00 am (before class) on the day on which day are due.

Due dates:

1st critical reply: Sept. 21 (Week 2), by 9:00am (before class)

2nd critical reply: Oct. 5 (Week 4), by 9:00am (before class)

3rd critical reply: Nov. 23 (Week 11), by 9:00am (before class)

4th critical reply: Dec. 7 (Week 13), by 9:00am (before class)

Assignment 2: Mid-Term Paper (25%)

You will be expected to write a short mid-term paper of about 2000 words in which you respond to a set question. The paper should be submitted as *Word* document (.doc or .docx; Times New Roman, 12 pt., spacing 1.5) via BLACKBOARD by *Saturday, Oct. 13, 23:59 pm*.

The aim of the mid-term paper is to provide an answer to the set question regarding one of the courses topics (1) by *analysing* key conceptions and arguments regarding content and structure, and (2) by critically assessing the adequacy, effectiveness, and applicability of the arguments and the intellectual position under consideration.

Due date: Oct. 13 (Week 5), by 23:59 pm

Grading Criteria for the Critical Replies and the Mid-term Paper (Assignments 1 and 2):

Your critical replies and mid-term papers will be graded according to the following *five criteria*: coherence of the thesis, strength of the argument, adequate use of relevant primary texts (and secondary literature), clarity of structure, and correctness of form. For each of these criteria you will be graded according to your performance. The grade that you will receive will be calculated on the basis of this scheme:

Grading Criteria	Relative Weight
Coherence of the thesis	20%
Strength of the argument	20%
Adequate use of relevant primary texts	20%

(and secondary literature)

Clarity of structure 20%

Correctness of form and English 20%

Late critical replies and mid-term papers will be marked down one grading unit per day (24 hours) of lateness. For example, if you submit an A-/4.0 critical reply or mid-term paper 10 hours late, you will receive an A-/3.7. Extensions of the deadline are only possible for serious reasons. In general, an extension can only be granted if you apply for it *before* the deadline expires.

Assignment 3: Written Exams (20% each – 40% in total)

After each of the two halves of the course you will be expected to review the material and attend a written exam. The mid-term and final exams will consist of a set of questions on the respective halves of the course. These questions will contain knowledge questions regarding key terms and intellectual positions, as well as short essay questions that ask you to *reconstruct* and *discuss* philosophical texts and ethical arguments that this course addresses. More information will be provided along the semester.

Dates:

Mid-term exam: Oct. 30 (Week 8), 2018, 9:00am

Final exam: Dec. 18 (Week 15), 2018, 8:30am

Other

Preparation and Participation in Class

Students are expected to come to every class meeting on time and be prepared to participate actively. The *student's preparation* includes in particular careful reading of the assigned texts in advance of the planned session. When reading you should take notes and excerpt the core ideas of the texts – that is, you should engage in active reading.

Active participation encompasses the active engagement in the discussions during the lectures and in the work group activities. In discussions, all participants are expected to show respect and courtesy.

English Language Proficiency

As an Anglophone university, AUP is strongly committed to effective English language mastery at the undergraduate level. Most courses require scholarly research and formal written and oral presentations in English, and AUP students are expected to strive to achieve excellence in these domains as part of their course work. To that end, the evaluation includes English proficiency. Students can obtain help on specific academic assignments in the university *Writing Lab* where they may obtain. For more information, please visit <https://www.aup.edu/academics/academic-and-career-resources/academic-resource-center/writing-lab> – email: writinglab@aup.edu.

Academic Misconduct

All work that you submit must be your own. Your sources must be properly cited. Direct quotations from others must be in quotation marks. If you have questions about how to attribute your sources, talk to the professor or to the staff of AUP's *Writing Lab* within the Academic Resource Center: <https://www.aup.edu/academics/academic-and-career-resources/academic-resource-center/writing-lab> – email: writinglab@aup.edu.

Plagiarism is a serious academic misconduct and will be dealt with accordingly. You should familiarize yourself with the university's policy on plagiarism at <http://www.aup.edu/academics/offices-resources/academic-resource-center/writing-lab/plagiarism>. For the sake of fairness and academic integrity, and in order to maintain the reputation of the degree you are earning with us, there will be no tolerance with plagiarism and other such forms of academic misconduct. Any conduct, whether intentional or unintentional, which creates the impression that some of the coursework you submit for grading is your own achievement when it is not will be reported to the *Academic Integrity Office* and may result in an "F" grade for the whole course.

Sometimes students present alien work as their own not because they want to earn an unfair advantage over their peers but rather because they feel unable to cope with the workload for some academic or personal reason. If this is the case, please do not hesitate to contact the professor or AUP's student guidance counselors Pamela Montfort via pmontfort@aup.edu or Yann Louis ylouis@aup.edu. There is a lot that can be done to help you!