

Political Science 772  
Modern Political Thought  
Spring 2009  
Mondays, 3pm to 5:30pm, 115 Murphey

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370B Hamilton Hall, 962-0411  
Office hours: Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30pm; Wednesdays, 1:00-2:30pm

This course is a continuation of Political Science 771. The aim of this course is to survey some of the most important texts of modern political thought from Kant through Nietzsche. This course will be run through discussion, so you need to do the reading carefully before class. You should bring the week's readings to class. I expect all students to participate intelligently and respectfully in class. You will write six three page papers (40% of the grade altogether), and one take home final (60%).

Short papers be three pages long. They should not summarize the texts, but should critically or sympathetically analyze an important argument in the readings. Short papers are due at noon the day of class. You must pick a schedule below for the short papers, and email me your choice by Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. You will have 72 hours to complete the take home final. Toward the end of the semester you can let me know which day you want the exam.

### Readings

The following are the editions that will be used in the course, and are available at the bookstore. All articles are available through Blackboard. You should obtain a copy of Smith's *Wealth of Nations* or read it online, since the text is in the public domain.

Kant, *Political Writings*, Cambridge  
Hume, *A Treatise of Human Nature*, Oxford  
Hume, *Essays, Moral, Political, and Literary*, Liberty  
Smith, *Theory of Moral Sentiments*, Liberty  
Mill, *On Liberty and Other Essays*, Oxford  
Marx/Tucker, *The Marx-Engels Reader*, Norton  
Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals and Ecce Homo* Vintage  
Shaw, *Nietzsche's Political Skepticism*, Princeton (this book is not available at the bookstore)

### January

- 12 Kant, "What is Enlightenment?"; "Perpetual Peace"; "What is Orientation in Thinking?"; "Conjectures on the Beginning of Human History"  
Schmidt, "What Enlightenment Project?"
- 19 MLK Day
- 26 Kant, "The Metaphysics of Morals"; On a Supposed Right to Lie Because of Philanthropic Concerns" (BB)

Herman, "Mutual Aid and Respect for Persons"  
Korsgaard, "The Right to Lie"

## February

- 2 Hume, A Treatise of Human Nature, Book I, Part I, sections 7, 10, 11; Book II, Part II, sections 5, 7; Book 3 (entire)
- 9 Hume, "That Politics May be Reduced to a Science." "Of the Original Contract," "Of the Origin of Government"  
Smith, "A Theory of Moral Sentiments," pp. 9-19; 50-91; 109-113; 134-156; 179-193; 306-17  
Smith, "An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations," Book I, intro, chs. 1-2; Book III; Book IV, ch. 1; Book V, ch 1, part 2 ("Of the Expense of Justice")
- 16 No Class
- 23 Forman-Barzilai, "Sympathy in Space(s): Adam Smith on Proximity"  
Raphael, "Hume and Adam Smith on Justice and Utility"  
Krause, "Hume and the (False) Luster of Justice"  
Moore, "Hume's Theory of Justice and Property"

## March

- 2 Mill, "On Liberty"  
Richard Vernon, "John Stuart Mill and Pornography: Beyond the Harm Principle"
- 9 Spring Break
- 16 Mill, *Subjection of Women; Representative Government*, chs. 1-8, 14;  
Urbinati, "John Stuart Mill on Androgyny and Ideal Marriage"
- 23 Mill, *Utilitarianism*; "Stationary State" (BB); "Utility of Religion"; "Chapters on Socialism" [links to these last two essays are on Blackboard]  
Hoag, "Happiness and Freedom: Recent Work on John Stuart Mill"  
Baum, "J. S. Mill on Freedom and Power"
- 30 Marx, "On the Jewish Question"; Theses on Feuerbach"; "Germany Ideology"  
"Critique of the Gotha Program"; "The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte"; "Communist Manifesto"

## April

- 6 Marx, "Economic-Philosophical Manuscripts," 66-93; "Wage Labour and Capital," "Grundrisse," 221-244, Capital, 302-329, 367-376  
Wood, "The Marxian Critique of Justice"  
Aschcraft, "Marx and Political Theory"
- 13 Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals*
- 20 Nietzsche, *Ecco Homo*  
Leiter, "Nietzsche and the Morality Critics"
- 27 Shaw, *Nietzsche's Political Skepticism*

## May

- 4 Last day final exam is due