

Political Science 7400: Spring 2020: *Fundamental Concepts in Political Theory*

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Class: M 2:00-4:45
Office Hrs: T 10:00-11:00
2058 Derby Hall

This course is a graduate level survey designed to introduce students to the scope, concepts, and methods of political theory. The readings are organized thematically, but we will explore concepts through the lens of both canonical and contemporary thinkers, relating their ideas to important debates throughout political science.

Course Requirements: There are three main course requirements:

1. Seminar presentation and seminar participation. Each member of the seminar is expected to participate each session in seminar discussion. In addition, each member of the seminar will be responsible for making two presentations designed to spark seminar discussion on an assigned topic. The presentations and seminar participation count for 40% of the final course grade.
2. Final paper: One ~20 page paper on a subject of the seminar member's choice, based on either the course readings, or an application to current research. This paper will count for 50% of the final course grade and is due on April 27th at noon. The criteria for the paper follow Booth et. al., which will discuss in detail during class. We will be work-shopping each paper, so a draft of the paper will be due on April 13th. You will not be graded on the draft, but it behooves you to make it a quality draft of your full argument.
3. Colleague comments: For the 4/20 meeting you will be expected to produce written comments on each seminar member's draft paper, using substantive and Booth et. al. criteria. The colleague comments will count for 10% of your final grade.

Course Materials

<i>The Craft of Research 3rd (or 4th Ed.)</i>	Booth et. al.
<i>Leviathan</i>	Hobbes (Cambridge: Tuck)
<i>A Theory of Justice</i> (rev. ed.)	Rawls
<i>On Democracy</i> (2 nd Ed.)	Dahl
<i>What is Populism?</i>	Müller
<i>How Democracies Die</i>	Levitsky and Ziblatt

All articles and further class materials will be available on Carmen or as handouts.

Students with disabilities should make their needs known to the instructor and seek available assistance in the first week of the quarter. For course materials in alternative formats please see Mr. Charles Smith, 2140 Derby Hall, 292-2880 in the first week of the semester.

Schedule of Readings

1/6	<i>Course Introduction</i>	
1/13	<i>Theories of Political Theory</i>	
	Berlin:	Does Political Theory Still Exist?
	Strauss:	What is Political Philosophy?
	Skinner:	Meaning and Understanding in the History of Ideas
	Brown:	At the Edge
	Blau:	Interpreting Texts
1/20	<i>MLK Day</i>	No Class
1/27	<i>Between Facts & Norms 1</i>	
	Hobbes:	<i>Leviathan</i> Chapters 1-21, Review & Conclusion
2/3	<i>Ways to Read the Canon</i>	
	Strauss:	“Hobbes” from <i>Natural Right & History</i>
	Skinner:	Ideological Context
	Miller & Strong:	Contexts and Meanings
	Pateman	from <i>The Sexual Contract</i>

2/10	<i>Between Facts & Norms 2</i>	
	Weber:	Politics as a Vocation / Science as a Vocation
	Wolin:	Political Theory as a Vocation
	Gerring & Yesowitz	A normative turn in political science?
	Shapiro	Problems, methods and theories
	Mansbridge	What is Political Science For?
2/17	<i>Tolerance</i>	
	Locke:	Letter Concerning Toleration
	Kant:	What is Enlightenment?
	Mill	from <i>On Liberty</i>
	Arendt	What is Freedom?
	Marcuse:	Repressive Tolerance
2/24	<i>Justice</i>	
	Rawls:	<i>A Theory of Justice</i> , revised edition: §1-4, 8, 11-17, 20-26, 29
	Nozick:	from <i>Anarchy, State, Utopia</i>
	Okin:	Justice and Gender
	Young	from <i>Justice and the Politics of Difference</i>
3/2	<i>What is (a) Democracy?</i>	
	Dahl:	<i>On Democracy</i> (2 nd Ed.)
	Mouffe	from <i>The Democratic Paradox</i>
	Coppedge et al.	from <i>Varieties of Democracy</i>
3/9	SPRING BREAK	
3/16	<i>Democracy & Populism</i>	
	Levitsky and Ziblatt	<i>How Democracies Die</i>
	Canovan	Trust the People
	Müller	<i>What is Populism?</i> (pp. 1-92)
3/23	<i>The Contemporary Critique of Democracy</i>	
	Schumpeter	from <i>Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy</i>
	Achen and Bartels	from <i>Democracy for Realists</i>
	Saunders-Hastings	Paper on A&B
3/30	<i>Patriotism & Cosmopolitanism</i>	
	Thucydides:	Pericles's Funeral Oration
	Schmitt:	from <i>The Concept of the Political</i>
	Nussbaum,	Patriotism & Cosmopolitanism
	Taylor:	Why Democracy Needs Patriotism
	Habermas:	Citizenship & National Identity
4/6	<i>Representation</i>	
	Pitkin	<i>The Concept of Representation</i> , Chs. 1&10
	Urbinati & Warren	The Concept of Representation in Contemporary Democratic Theory
	Neblo, Esterling, & Lazer	<i>Politics with the People</i> : Chs. 1&2
4/13	<i>Deliberative Democracy</i>	[Paper Drafts Due]
	Habermas:	Three Normative Models of Democracy
	Thompson	Deliberative Democratic Theory & Empirical Political Science
	Mutz	Is Deliberative Democracy a Falsifiable Theory?
	Neblo	from <i>Deliberative Democracy between Theory & Practice</i> : Chs. 1&2
4/20	<i>Paper Workshop</i>	Colleague Comments Due