

**POL 306: Political Ideologies (3 cr)**  
Fall 2017

MW 9:30-10:45am, 2165 SSB



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Office Hours: W 10:45am-12:30pm

Dearborn Discovery Core Category(s): critical & creative thinking, social & behavioral analysis, upper-level writing intensive

**Course Description:**

This is an upper-level political theory course aimed at undergraduates who have varying levels of exposure to political theory. This course focuses on the theoretical foundations of three major political ideologies: liberalism, conservatism, and radicalism/Marxism. To study this, we will focus on a few primary philosophical texts, supplemented by other political writings.

**Program Goals:**

For the political science program goals, please visit the [political science webpage](#).

**Dearborn Discovery Core Goals:**

For DDC goals, please visit the [Dearborn Discovery Core webpage](#).

**Course Objectives:**

- To read philosophical texts closely and critically
- To clearly articulate arguments through writing
- To understand the underlying philosophy of major political ideologies
- To understand the relationship between theory and politics through ideology's mediation
- To understand the development and influence of political ideologies on history and political thought

**Required Materials:**

All of the required books will be available through the university bookstore, and are of course also available online in physical and digital versions. None of the books are expensive when purchased new, and "like new" used copies can be purchased for even less on Amazon.

We will use the following books, with any additional readings available on the course website:

Locke, John. *Two Treatises of Government*. Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought. ISBN: 978-0521357302

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *The First and Second Discourses*. Bedford St. Martin's. ISBN: 978-0312694401

Burke, Edmund. *Reflections on the Revolution in France*. Oxford World's Classics. ISBN: 978-0199539024

Paine, Thomas. *Rights of Man, Common Sense, and Other Political Writings*. Oxford World's Classics. ISBN: 978-0199538003

Marx, Karl and Freidrich Engels. *The Communist Manifesto*. International Publishers Co. ISBN: 978-0717802418

## Assessment

### Rubrics

All assignments will have specific guidelines and grading rubrics to indicate expectations and explain the breakdown of grades based on skill/learning goal achievement. Please see the course website for these documents.

### Attendance and Participation

Success in class, as in much of life, depends a lot on showing up. But life happens. For that reason, you get two excused absences, no questions asked, for the entire semester. You may miss two class periods without any penalty, for whatever reason. After you've used these two freebies, any additional absences will cost you your attendance point for the day – again, for whatever reason you're missing. If you have a prolonged, documented illness, or other personal/family emergency, please contact me as soon as possible. Tardiness or leaving class early, without documented legitimate reason, does not only affect you but disrupts the flow of class for your peers. You will lose half an attendance point for coming in late or packing up and leaving early.

Participation is more loosely defined and will depend on the day's activities. This does not simply mean speaking in class, but can also include turning in in-class activities or other short assignments (e.g. Plagiarism quiz). See more in Assignments section.

### Assignment and Grading Distribution:

Attendance & Participation	10%
Short Paper 1	15%
Short Paper 2	20%
Short Paper 3	25%
Final Paper	30%

### Grading Scale:

94%- 100%	A	87%- 89%	B+	80%- 83%	B-
90%- 93%	A-	84%- 86%	B	77%-79%	C+

74%-76%	C	67%-69%	D+	60%-63%	D
70%-73%	C-	64%-66%	D		

## Assignments

All assignments will be submitted electronically through the course website, and run through plagiarism detection software. Students may request either digital or physical copies of assignment feedback when submitting their work. More details on submission formatting and guidelines will be available on the course website.

### *Participation*

As noted below, participation (as well as attendance) is a component of your course grade. While contributing to discussion in class is an obvious form of participation, you will also answer a question or two that I present during class on a sheet of paper that you will turn in at the end of class. This is a major part of your participation grade, and allows me to see where you're at during our discussions. Sometimes you will work with others to answer these questions, sometimes they will be your own reflections. Regardless, every student will turn in their own page of answers at the end of class. Particularly good answers – or follow-up questions – will become part of our review session at the beginning of the next class, so we can all benefit from each other's thoughts.

### *Plagiarism Quiz*

As noted below, plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Many students, even at the college level, do not always understand what constitutes plagiarism, however. To remedy this, and to ensure that you understand that plagiarism will result in penalties, you must complete an online quiz, found here: <https://www.indiana.edu/~istd/test.html>

To complete the assignment, you must submit a copy of the completion certificate to the designated Dropbox (do not email me) or, if you cannot pass the quiz, you must instead submit evidence (using screenshots, for instance) that you have correctly answered 10 practice test questions. Passing the quiz is highly preferable.

### *Short Papers*

You will have three short papers due at the end of each unit of the course, which will respond to an assigned question on the basis of your close reading of the course texts. These papers will be about 4 pages long, and present a clear, developed argument to answer the given question.

### *Final Paper*

At the end of the course, the final paper will give you the opportunity to synthesize what you have learned from your readings. This 6-7 page paper will answer a broader question about political ideologies, and you will have a choice between question options.

## Tentative Course Outline:

Week	Topic & Readings	Assignments
Week 1 9/6	Introduction	<b>Plagiarism Quiz due F 9/8</b>
Week 2 9/11 9/13	Introduction: What is political philosophy? What is political ideology? Selection from Strauss, <i>What is Political Philosophy?</i> [Canvas] Selections from Marx, Mannheim, and Gramsci [Canvas]	
Week 3 9/18 9/20	Liberalism: Origins Locke, <i>First Treatise</i> – Preface and ch 1-4 (34 pgs) Locke, <i>First Treatise</i> – ch 5-7 (27 pgs)	
Week 4 9/25 9/27	Liberalism: John Locke Locke, <i>Second Treatise</i> – ch 1-3 (15 pgs) Locke, <i>Second Treatise</i> – ch 4, 5, 8 (sections 95-100, 119), 9 (31 pgs)	
Week 5 10/2 10/4	Liberalism: John Locke and the American Founders Selections from <i>Federalist Papers</i> [Canvas] Selections from <i>Anti-Federalist Papers</i> [Canvas]	
Week 6 10/9 10/11	REVOLT: Jean-Jacques Rousseau <b>NO READING</b> Rousseau, <i>Second Discourse</i> : “Letter to the Republic of Geneva” & Preface (20 pgs)	<b>Paper 1 due M 10/9</b>
Week 7 10/16 10/18	REVOLT: Jean-Jacques Rousseau <b>STUDY DAY – NO CLASSES</b> Rousseau, <i>Second Discourse</i> p 101-26 (25 pgs)	
Week 8 10/23 10/25	Conservatism: Jean-Jacques Rousseau vs Edmund Burke Rousseau, <i>Second Discourse</i> p 126-56, 180-81 (31 pgs) Burke, <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i>	
Week 9 10/30 11/1	Conservatism: Edmund Burke vs Thomas Paine Burke, <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i> Paine, <i>Rights of Man</i>	
Week 10 11/6 11/8	Conservatism: Edmund Burke vs Thomas Paine Paine, <i>Rights of Man</i> <b>NO READING</b>	<b>Paper 2 due W 11/8</b>
Week 11 11/13 11/15	Radicalism: Karl Marx Marx, <i>Communist Manifesto</i> : Preface & Part I (19 pages) Marx, <i>Communist Manifesto</i> : Part II-IV (22 pages)	
Week 12 11/20 11/22	Radicalism: Karl Marx and Communist Leaders Selections from Lenin & Trotsky [Canvas] Selections from Mao Zedong [Canvas]	
Week 13 11/27 11/29	Radicalism: Feminism, Ecologism Selections from Mary Wollstonecraft and bell hooks [Canvas] Selections from Rachel Carson [Canvas]	<b>Paper 3 due W 11/29</b>
Week 14 12/4 12/6	Radicalism: Anarchism, Nationalism, Fascism Selections from Emma Goldman [Canvas] Selections from Gandhi, and Mussolini and Gentile [Canvas]	
Week 15 12/11	Conclusion Riker, <i>Liberalism Against Populism</i> [Canvas]	
<b>FINAL PAPER DUE WEDNESDAY, 12/20 BY 11AM ON CANVAS</b>		

## **Additional Information and Resources**

### **Changes to the Syllabus:**

I retain the right to make adjustments to the course, syllabus, and assignments as needed throughout the semester. If I make any changes, I will update the syllabus or related documents on the course website, and announce the changes in class. It is your responsibility to stay on top of these changes, and to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

### **University Attendance Policy:**

A student is expected to attend every class and laboratory for which he or she has registered. Each instructor may make known to the student his or her policy with respect to absences in the course. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of this policy. The instructor makes the final decision to excuse or not to excuse an absence. An instructor is entitled to give a failing grade (E) for excessive absences or an Unofficial Drop (UE) for a student who stops attending class at some point during the semester.

### **Academic Integrity Policy:**

The University of Michigan-Dearborn values academic honesty and integrity. Each student has a responsibility to understand, accept, and comply with the University's standards of academic conduct as set forth by the Code of Academic Conduct (<http://umdearborn.edu/697817/>), as well as policies established by each college. Cheating, collusion, misconduct, fabrication, and plagiarism are considered serious offenses and violations can result in penalties up to and including expulsion from the University.

### **Disability Statement:**

The University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to register with Counseling & Disability Services (DS) every semester they are enrolled. DS is located in 2157 UC ([http://www.umd.umich.edu/cs\\_disability/](http://www.umd.umich.edu/cs_disability/)). To be assured of having services when they are needed, students should register no later than the end of the add/drop deadline of each term. If you have a disability that necessitates an accommodation or adjustment to the academic requirements stated in this syllabus, you must register with DS as described above and notify your professor.

### **Safety:**

All students are encouraged to program 911 and UM-Dearborn's University Police phone number (313) 593-5333 into personal cell phones. In case of emergency, first dial 911 and then if the situation allows call University Police.

The Emergency Alert Notification (EAN) system is the official process for notifying the campus community for emergency events. All students are strongly encouraged to register in the campus EAN, for communications during an emergency. The following link includes information on registering as well as safety and emergency procedures information: <http://umdearborn.edu/emergencyalert/>.

If you hear a fire alarm, class will be immediately suspended, and you must evacuate the building by using the

nearest exit. Please proceed outdoors to the assembly area and away from the building. Do not use elevators. It is highly recommended that you do not head to your vehicle or leave campus since it is necessary to account for all persons and to ensure that first responders can access the campus.

If the class is notified of a shelter-in-place requirement for a tornado warning or severe weather warning, your instructor will suspend class and shelter the class in the lowest level of this building away from windows and doors.

If notified of an active threat (shooter) you will Run (get out), Hide (find a safe place to stay) or Fight (with anything available). Your response will be dictated by the specific circumstances of the encounter.