

POLI 2420/PHIL 2220: Political Thought 1789-1900
Winter 2019 – Dalhousie University
LSC, Room C236
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4:05pm – 5:25pm

Professor: Dr. M. Firmini
Office: Political Science – Henry Hicks, 355
Office Hours: By appointment
Contact: Marcella.Firmini@dal.ca
TA Contact: TBA in class if available

This survey course is an introduction to political thought which traces the development of modern liberalism and the challenges to it. The course begins with lectures on the development of American political thought then moves from Edmund Burke to conclude with Karl Marx.

Objectives: Understand key texts and concepts, and how they relate to a modern context; think, write, and argue logically, critically, and clearly on the topics addressed; realize the importance of ideas and their influence on today's societies.

Texts & readings: 1. D. Boucher & P. Kelly (ed), *Political Thinkers* (3rd ed)
 2. BBL Web links to online sources

Evaluations:

1. Jan. 29: Quiz (15%)
 2. February 26: Mid-term (20%)
 3. March 12: Research paper (30%)
 4. Final Exam: per registrar's calendar (35%)
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Dalhousie Grading Scheme:

Each assignment will receive a numerical grade. Final grades will be translated into letter grades using the following scale:

A+	90-100	Excellent	Considerable evidence of original thinking; demonstrated outstanding capacity to analyze and synthesize; outstanding grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.
A	85-89		
A-	80-84		
B+	77-79	Good	Evidence of grasp of subject matter, some evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with the literature.
B	73-76		
B-	70-72		
C+	65-69	Satisfactory	Evidence of some understanding of the subject matter; ability to develop solutions to simple problems; benefitting from his/her university experience.
C	60-64		
C-	55-59		
D	50-54	Marginal Pass	Evidence of minimally acceptable familiarity with subject matter, critical and analytical skills (except in programs where a minimum grade of 'C' is required).
F	0-49	Inadequate	Insufficient evidence of understanding of the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytical skills; limited or irrelevant use of the literature.

Drop Course Dates: please review dates on the registrar's website

Rules and Policy Regarding Cell Phone and Computer Etiquette:

1. The use of cellular phones or any other electronic gadgetry is **not permitted** during class lectures; neither are recording devices of **ANY** kind.
2. During thematic discussions all phones, computers, and all other electronic gadgets **must be turned off and stored away**.
3. Use of laptops for taking notes during lectures is permitted; *however*, should complaints arise regarding inappropriate or distracting web browsing during class, the use of laptops will be restricted. Use them wisely.
4. Phone calls, texts, Snap Chat, You Tube, Facebook, Twitter, and video and audio recordings, and **ALL other forms** of social media usage are **NOT** permitted inside the classroom.

Statement on Academic Integrity (Source: Dalhousie University):

“At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect (*The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 1999*). As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity.

What does academic integrity mean?

At university we advance knowledge by building on the work of other people. Academic integrity means that we are honest and accurate in creating and communicating all academic products. Acknowledgement of other people's work must be done in a way that does not leave the reader in any doubt as to whose work it is. Academic integrity means trustworthy conduct such as not cheating on examinations and not misrepresenting information. It is the student's responsibility to seek assistance to ensure that these standards are met.

How can you achieve academic integrity?

[T]he following are **some ways** that you can achieve academic integrity:

- Make sure you understand Dalhousie's policies on academic integrity (<http://academicintegrity.dal.ca/Policies/>)
- Do not cheat in examinations or write an exam or test for someone else
- Be sure not to plagiarize, intentionally or unintentionally
- Clearly indicate the sources used in your written or oral work. This includes ideas, figures of speech, graphical representations, diagrams, videos, and images.
- Do not use the work of another from the Internet or any other source and submit it as your own
- When you use the ideas of other people (paraphrasing), make sure to acknowledge the source
- Do not submit work that has been completed...previously [and] submitted for another assignment

Where can you turn for help?

If you are ever unsure about any aspect of your academic work, contact me; also:

- Academic Integrity website <http://academicintegrity.dal.ca/>
- Writing Centre
(http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/student_services/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html)

What will happen if an allegation of an academic offence is made against you?

I am *required* to report every suspected offence... If you are found guilty of an offence, a penalty will be assigned ranging from a warning, to failure of the assignment or failure of the class, to expulsion from the University. Penalties may also include a notation on your transcript that indicates that you have committed an academic offence.

All students in this class are to read and understand the policies on academic integrity and plagiarism referenced in the Policies and Student Resources sections of the academicintegrity.dal.ca website.

Ignorance of such policies is no excuse for violations".

Plagiarism, therefore, is considered a serious academic offence. *No excuse is acceptable for plagiarism* and **NO AMOUNT OF PLAGIARISM WILL BE TOLERATED AND THUS WILL BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY.** For more information, see:

http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html

Requests for Student Accommodation (Source: Dalhousie University):

“Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers experienced related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic protected under Canadian human rights legislation. Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Advising and Access Services Center (AASC) prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. Please visit www.dal.ca/access for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation form.

A note taker may be required as part of a student’s accommodation. There is an honorarium of \$75/course/term (with some exceptions). If you are interested, please contact AASC at 902-494-2836 for more information or send an email to notetaking@dal.ca

Please note that your classroom may contain specialized accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom, untouched, so that students who require their usage will be able to fully participate in the class”.

- ✓ No alternative dates for paper deadlines will be set except for serious medical conditions
- ✓ No assignments will be given for extra credit.
- ✓ Lectures cover material not posted on Bright Space.
- ✓ **DO NOT** book any travel before the exam schedules are known.
- ✓ Familiarize yourself with course ‘Drop Dates’. These can be found here: http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html

STATEMENTS FROM DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY:

UNIVERSITY POLICIES, STATEMENTS, GUIDELINES and RESOURCES for SUPPORT

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the [University Calendar](#) and the Senate.

University Statements

Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect (The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke

University, 1999). As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity. Click [here](#) to read more.

Accessibility

The Advising and Access Services Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students who request accommodation as a result of: a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation (NS, NB, PEI, NL). Click [here](#) to read more.

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student

Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution. Click [here](#) to read more.

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness (Strategic Priority 5.2). Click [here](#) to read more.

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq

Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit the office in the McCain Building (room 3037) or contact the programs at elders@dal.ca or 902-494-6803 (leave a message).

University Policies and Programs

- Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)
http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html
- University Grading Practices: Statement of Principles and Procedures
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html
- Scent-Free Program
<https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>

Learning and Support Resources

- General Academic Support - Academic Advising:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html

- Copyright and Fair Dealing: <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office/fair-dealing/fair-dealing-guidelines.html>
- Libraries: <http://libraries.dal.ca>
- Student Health Services: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/health-services.html
- Counselling and Psychological Services: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/counselling.html
- Black Student Advising: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html
- Aboriginal Student Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/native.html
- ELearning Website: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/elearning.html>
- Student Advocacy Services: <https://www.dsu.ca/services/community-student-services/student-advocacy-service>
- Dalhousie Ombudsperson: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html
- Writing Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html
- Studying for Success program and tutoring: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html

Dalhousie students are asked to take responsibility for their own short-term absences (3 days or less) by contacting their instructor by phone or email prior to the academic requirement deadline or scheduled time and by submitting a completed Student Declaration of Absence to their instructor in case of missed or late academic requirements. Only 2 separate Student Declaration of Absence forms may be submitted per course during a term (Note: faculty, college, school, instructor or course-specific guidelines may set a lower maximum).

(read more: [https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/dept/university_secretariat/policy-repository/StudentAbsenceRegulation\(OCT2017\)v2.pdf](https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/dept/university_secretariat/policy-repository/StudentAbsenceRegulation(OCT2017)v2.pdf))

The updated course syllabus template can be found at the link below:

https://dalu.sharepoint.com/sites/admin/clt/projdocs/Course-Syllabus-Template_August-2017.pdf

The Student Declaration of Absence form can be found at the link below:

<https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/campuslife/Health%20and%20wellness/FINAL%20Student%20Declaration%20of%20Absence%20Form.pdf>

COURSE OUTLINE:

January 8: Welcome

- *Introduction and expectations*

The American Founding

Readings:

1. Declaration of Independence (Bright Space)
2. (Bright Space)
3. Douglass reading (Bright Space)

Edmund Burke

Readings:

1. Speech to the Electors of Bristol (Bright Space)
2. Reflections on the Revolution in France (Bright Space)
3. Boucher & Kelly (Text: pp. 305-325)

Thomas Paine

Readings:

1. The Rights of Man (Bright Space)
2. Agrarian Justice (Bright Space)
3. Common Sense (Bright Space)

January 29: Quiz

Alexis de Tocqueville

Readings:

1. Boucher & Kelly (Text: pp. 387-408).
2. Democracy in America (Bright Space)
 - **Vol. I:** “Tyranny of the majority”;
“Power exercised by the majority in America upon opinion”
 - **Vol. II:** “Why democratic nations show a more ardent and enduring love of quality”;
“Relations of civil to political associations”;
“How an aristocracy can be created by manufacturers”;
“That the sentiments of democratic nations accord with their opinions in leading them to concentrate political power”;
“What sort of despotism democratic nations have to fear”;
“General survey of the subject”.

February 18 – 22: STUDY BREAK

February 26: Midterm

John Stuart Mill

Readings:

1. Boucher & Kelly (Text: 409-427)
2. Utilitarianism I-V (Bright Space)
3. On Liberty I-V (Bright Space)

G.W. F. Hegel

Readings:

(Paper due March 12)

1. Boucher & Kelly (Text: 467-487)
2. The Philosophy of Right (Bright Space)
3. The Philosophy of History (Recommended reading – can be found online)

Karl Marx

Readings:

1. Boucher & Kelly (Text: 504-521)
2. Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844 (Bright Space)
3. The German Ideology (Recommended reading – can be found online)
4. Manifesto of the Communist Party (Bright Space)

➤ **April 4: Final Exam Prep**

FINAL EXAM DURING REGISTRAR'S EXAMINATION PERIOD