



## COURSE SUMMARY:

Political Science 2420, along with Political Science 2410, is an introduction to political philosophy and to the development of moral and conceptual ideas underlying modern politics. Both classes examine some of the most important normative issues in the history of modern western political thought, and investigate how these questions frame most of today's political debates. Specifically, they trace the development of modern liberalism, the challenges to liberalism in the past three and a half centuries, and the roots of the contemporary contradictions within modern political thought.



## MODE OF DELIVERY FOR WINTER 2022

Really [deep sigh], who knows? This class is designed as an in-person class, and will be delivered as such when the university permits in-person instruction. Until this happens, the class will be online only. There will be both synchronous and asynchronous components, as noted in the lecture outline below. If and when classes go back to in-person, and you do not feel well, please look after yourself (and your colleagues) and stay home. It is **strongly recommended** that you form support networks in this class so that you have access to class notes if you are unwell. Lecture slides may be posted on request, but they contain a limited amount of information and should not be seen as an acceptable alternative to attending lectures. They are also in Keynote (Mac) format.

## ADD-DROP DEADLINES

For winter term classes, the last day to drop fall term courses with no financial implications is **January 14<sup>th</sup>**; the last date to drop a fall-term class without a W appearing on the transcript is **January 28<sup>th</sup>**; and the last day to drop a fall-term class with a W is **March 7<sup>th</sup>**

## OFFICE HOURS

Please contact me at [K.Fierlbeck@dal.ca](mailto:K.Fierlbeck@dal.ca) to make an appointment to meet. I am happy to meet on Teams and, because I have a large and well-ventilated office, I am also happy to meet in person – just let me know your preferences when you make your appointment.

## EVALUATION

The premise underlying evaluation in this class is that some people prefer more assignments worth less, and some prefer fewer assignments worth more. In this class, you can select the number of assignments that works best for you. The bare minimum is that everyone has to write the research paper and the final exam. But you also have the choice of adding on one or two smaller quizzes, and one or two smaller essays. If you do not do these assignments, their value will be added on the final paper/exam. Details for each assignment will be posted on Brightspace.

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Date/Deadline</b>
Essay I (500 words)	10%	January 24 <sup>th</sup> (optional)
Essay II (750 words)	15%	February 28 <sup>th</sup> (optional)
<b>Research Essay (1000 words)</b>	<b>25%</b>	April 4 <sup>th</sup> (mandatory)
Quiz I	10%	February 9 <sup>th</sup> (optional)
Quiz II	10%	March 14 <sup>th</sup> (optional)
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>30%</b>	Final exam period (mandatory)

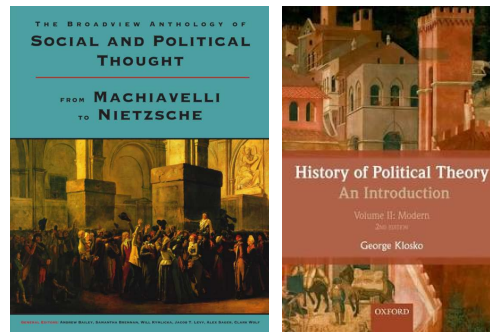
Please keep in mind that there is no turning back: once you have made a decision not to submit an optional assignment, you cannot do so after the fact.

**Late policy:** For all papers, you have a **48 hour discretionary extension** beyond the stated deadline. During this period, no grades will be deducted, but you will forfeit comments on your paper. After 48 hours, you will no longer be able to submit Essays I or II. For the research paper, you will be docked one point (out of 25) per day after the 48-hour discretionary extension. After one week from the deadline, you will no longer be able to submit. Please do not contact me saying that you want to forfeit a paper or take the extension: just go ahead and do it! Finally, this system is complicated enough - please do not send messages at the end of term asking for a different scoring system.

*Grades for each assignment, as well as final grades, will be available on Brightspace. Keep in mind you are not only being graded on the content of your assignments, **but also on your ability to follow instructions and to complete assignments within the allotted time.***

## REQUIRED TEXTS

1. **Primary readings** can be found in *The Broadview Anthology of Social and Political Thought: From Machiavelli to Nietzsche*, Andrew Bailey et al., eds. (specific chapters are noted in the outline below; please also read the introductions for each required chapter.)
2. For **commentary** on the texts, please read George Klosko, *History of Political Theory, Volume II: Modern* (specific chapters noted in the outline below)



Both books are available at the Dal Bookstore. They can also be ordered online, although delivery times may vary. Links to the *primary readings* are posted on Brightspace in each module, so you may choose not to buy the Broadview Anthology if you prefer using the online sources. However, the readings in the textbook are edited, and some are therefore shorter. The *commentary* book is also available as an ebook via Dal Libraries, so if you have a tight budget you can access all your readings free in virtual format (I know that others of you enjoy having hard copies that you can annotate and highlight.)

## THE COMMONWEALTH PRIZE

The Commonwealth Prize for Political Thought is a **cash prize** that will be awarded to the student who has the highest cumulative grade in both POLI 2410/PHIL 2210 and POLI 2420/PHIL 2220.



## **OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS**

*The goals of this class are:*

- To understand the key concepts and ideas underlying major works of early modern political thought
- To perceive how and why these ideas are relevant to contemporary political debate
- To grasp how, and why, specific political ideas developed in a particular way

*Students taking this class should develop the ability to:*

- Think in an ordered and logical manner
- Write clearly and persuasively
- Apply key political concepts to current political debates
- Evaluate complex arguments, and approach normative discussions about power and morality in a rigorous, critical, and systematic manner



# LECTURES

[PLEASE NOTE THAT DATES AND FORMAT MAY VARY  
DEPENDING ON CIRCUMSTANCES]



## MODULE ONE: INTRODUCTION

### January 5<sup>th</sup>

- **Synchronous:** this week is a “soft entry,” and the purpose of the class is largely to ensure the technology is working properly. Access the lecture through the Microsoft Teams link on your Brightspace Course Home page (bottom right corner). It is also accessible on your Content page. If the connect fails disastrously, no worries – I’ll consult the IT wizards and will communicate future steps on Brightspace via announcements. Keep your expectations low :)
- **Asynchronous - podcasts:** Go to the “Introduction” module on Brightspace. There is an excellent podcast on the French Revolution to set the historical context for the next two modules. You can of course access them at your convenience.
- **Asynchronous- readings:** Andrew Hoffman, “The limits of intellectual reason in our understanding of the natural world.” *The Conversation*: 1 June 2016. Also on Brightspace.

## MODULE TWO: EDMUND BURKE

### January 10, 12, 17

- **Synchronous** lectures via MT
- **Asynchronous - podcasts:** BBC and Philosophy Bites
- **Asynchronous- readings:**
  - \**Reflections on the Revolution in France*: either Brightspace online, paragraphs 1-49 and 125-149; or in Bailey et al., chapter on Burke
  - \*Klosko, chapter 7

## MODULE THREE: THOMAS PAINE

### January 19, 24, 26: Thomas Paine.

- **Synchronous** lectures via MT
- **Asynchronous - podcasts:** BBC
- **Asynchronous - readings:** *The Rights of Man* (Brightspace online)

## MODULE FOUR: ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE

### January 31, February 2, 7

**The assumption is that, at this point, all classes will be in-person. If that is not the case, the outline will be revised accordingly.**

- **Readings:** *Democracy in America* (Brightspace ONLY)  
BOOK ONE, ch. xv: “Tyranny of the majority”
- **Readings:** *Democracy in America* (Bailey et al. OR Brightspace online)  
BOOK TWO: section 2, ch v “Of the use which Americans make of public associations”; ch vi “Of the relations between public associations and newspapers”; ch vii “Connection of civil and political associations”; ch viii, “How Americans combat individualism”
- **Readings:** *Democracy in America* (Brightspace ONLY)  
BOOK TWO: section 2, ch xii “Causes of fanatical enthusiasm in some Americans”; ch xiii “Causes of the restless spirit of Americans”  
BOOK THREE: ch ix “Education of young women in the United States”  
BOOK FOUR: ch ii, “That the notions of democratic nations government are naturally favorable to the concentration of power”; ch vi “What sort of despotism democratic nations have to fear”

## MODULE FIVE: JOHN STUART MILL

### February 9, 14, 16, 28

- **Readings:** *Utilitarianism* ch. 2, 3, 5 and *On Liberty* 1-5 (either in Bailey et al. or online on Brightspace)
- Klosko, chapter 8

## MODULE SIX: G.W.F. HEGEL

March 2, 7, 9

- **Readings:** Hegel, G.W.F. (2017). *Philosophy of History* (J. Sibree, Trans.). Toronto: Our Open Media. Retrieved from <http://bradleymurray.ca>. Pp. 14 (from II) - 29 (first paragraph). On Brightspace.
- Klosko, chapter 9

## MODULE SEVEN: KARL MARX

March 16, 21, 23, 28

- **Readings:** *On Bruno Bauer's "On the Jewish Question" and Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts* ("Estranged labor" and "Private property and communism"). Available either in Bailey et al. or on Brightspace
- Crystia Freeland, "The self-destruction of the 1 per cent." *New York Times* 13 October 2012 (on Brightspace)
- Klosko, chapter 10

## MODULE EIGHT: FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE

March 30, April 4, 6

- **Readings:** *Beyond Good & Evil – Part Five: A Natural History of Morals and Part Nine: What is Noble?* Bailey et al. or Brightspace
- *The Genealogy of Morals - First Essay: Good and Evil, Good and Bad and Second Essay: Guilt, Bad Conscience and Related Matters.* Bailey et al. or Brightspace





## **APPENDICES**

### **Accommodation Policy for Students**

The Student Accessibility 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, NFLD).

**[https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/accessibility.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html)**

### **Statement on 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. **[https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/academic-integrity.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html)**

### **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.

Substantial and constructive dialogue on challenging issues is an important part of academic inquiry and exchange, especially in political science. It requires willingness to listen and tolerance of opposing points of view. Consideration of individual differences and alternative viewpoints is required of all class members: towards each other, towards instructors, and towards guest speakers. While expressions of difference perspectives are welcome and encouraged, the words and language used should remain within acceptable bounds of civility and respect.

**[https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-lifepolicies/code-of-student-conduct.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-lifepolicies/code-of-student-conduct.html)**

### **Dalhousie Writing Centre**

*"The Writing Centre offers writing support in all subjects to undergraduate and graduate students, from first-year assignments to final dissertations. We meet with students one-to-one to discuss their work and also offer workshops, seminars, and other special events to support student writing. Appointments are required for all sessions (both in-person and online) and must be booked in advance. Please email [writingc@dal.ca](mailto:writingc@dal.ca) to book an appointment or for any questions."*

**[https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html)**

## Studying for Success

*"The Studying for Success Program will continue its work supporting students in all areas of study skills and tutoring even if they are away from campus. Our Program Coordinator and our team of study coaches and tutors are ready to help you so that, while you are home and working remotely, you can still complete your course work and the summer term successfully. We can have virtual appointments with you through Brightspace Collaborate or Microsoft Teams (or another video communication platform that's mutually convenient), or via phone call, if you'd prefer. For general inquiries or to make appointments, you may still call us at 902-494-3077 or send your questions to: [sfs@dal.ca](mailto:sfs@dal.ca)."*

[https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html)



## Stress

*University life can be stressful at the best of times. If any students are struggling, and are looking for mental health support, please make sure you reach out for help. There are a variety of mental health resources and supports available for students at [www.dal.ca/mentalhealth](http://www.dal.ca/mentalhealth). If you wish to chat with a mental health professional, same-day counselling appointments are available at the Student Health and Wellness Centre on the 2nd floor of LeMarchant Place. Appointments can be made by calling 902-494-2171 or online at: [www.dal.ca/studenthealth/bookonline](http://www.dal.ca/studenthealth/bookonline). Students can also access free and confidential mental health counselling support 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, by calling Good2Talk at 1-833-292-3698 or by texting GOOD2TALKNS to 686868. If you are in crisis, you can always call 902-429-8167 or 1-888-429-8167 to reach the Mental Health Mobile Crisis Team, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*

**Useful links:**

- Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)  
[http://www.dal.ca/academics/important\\_dates.html](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](https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html)
- General Academic Support – Advising •  
[https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/academic-support/advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html) (Halifax)
- Fair Dealing Guidelines  
<https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office/guidelines/fair-dealingguidelines.html>
- Dalhousie University Library <http://libraries.dal.ca>
- Indigenous Students [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/indigenous.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html);
- Black Students [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/black-student-advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html);
- International Students [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/international-centre.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre.html)
- Copyright Office <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>
- E-Learning website <http://www.dal.ca/dept/elearning.html>

1JANUARY 2022