

POLI 1050: Ideas, Politics and People

Mondays & Wednesdays 15:35-16:55

Instructor: Dr. Carlos Pessoa
Room Location: Henry Hicks Building 212
Office Location: Henry Hicks, 354
Office Hours: Friday, 4:00-5:00 PM.
E-mail: cr966457@dal.ca

DESCRIPTION

Ideology is one of the most contested terms in political science. From the various historical meanings attributed to it, others have decided to proclaim its very anachronistic death. In other words, ideologies are no longer seen as playing a role in politics. It seems clear, however, that from the various contemporary ideological manifestations, such as environmentalism, feminist groups, etc. ideology has continued to maintain its value as a phenomenon to be studied. This course, then examines number of classical and contemporary ideologies in order to give a final verdict to the contemporary importance of ideology.

OBJECTIVES

- To introduce the origin and key conceptual elements of classical and contemporary political ideologies.
- To analyze the similarities and differences between political ideologies and how they have evolved over the years.
- To examine how ideologies have perpetuated through political and civil societies, and have influenced decisions and collective actions.
- To equip students with knowledge and analytical skills for further and more specialized study in the sub-field of political ideas and ideology.

TEXTBOOK

H.B. McCullough, **Political Ideologies** (Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford Press, 2010)

H.B. McCullough & Wolfgang Depner, **Reading in Political Ideologies** (Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford Press, 2013). Reserve Room at Killam Memorial Library

IN-CLASS ETIQUETTE RULES

The following are *prohibited* in the classroom:

- Speaking or text messaging on the phone (*you are required to turn off your cell phone while in class*)
- The use laptop is restricted during the time of lecture

- Listening to music
- Reading unless requested by the professor
- Eating food or drinking hot beverages
- Frequent entering and exiting the classroom
- Chatting with friends and other distracting behavior

Please be sure to follow these rules. You will be asked to leave otherwise and may receive 'F' as final letter grade for the course.

Deadline to Withdraw

Last day to withdraw without the appearance of a 'W' on the transcript is October 7.
Last day to withdraw with a 'W' is November 4.

ASSIGNMENTS

Participation: 10%

Participation is important in this course. Attendance is taken five times, *randomly*, each worth 2%. In order to receive the full 10% of the participation mark, students need to be in class and sign the attendance sheet.

Reading Review I (October 9): 15%

Reading Review II: (November 6) 15%

You need to write two reading reviews. In the review, you should demonstrate you have done the readings by discussing the main themes of the chosen chapter. It can be any chapter of the main textbook or extra-readings.

Essay (October 16): 30%:

Essay II (November 27): 30%:

To write a paper is an important practice for academic life. Students are required two fully written eight-page papers (excluding front cover, endnotes and cited works). The paper should be typed, double-spaced, on a Times News Roman font of 12cpi with page numbers. It should be based on a case study that represents an example of any of the political ideologies discussed in this course. *Irrelevant topics are not accepted and automatically lead to an 'F' for the assignment.*

This assignment requires time in the library and the proper use of citations throughout the text. A separate essay guide will be circulated in class. *The assignment requires a minimum of four sources not drawn from lectures notes or textbook.* Paper with less the required amount of sources will receive an 'F' for the assignment.

The student is responsible to keep an extra copy of his paper, in case the professor requests it. *Failure to provide an extra copy of the paper on request will lead to an 'F' as a mark for the assignment.*

Plagiarism is both morally and legally a form of fraud. Essays must be solely a product of the student's own work. Quoting or paraphrasing the work or ideas of others without

proper acknowledgment is a serious offence in academia, and it can lead to drastic consequences.

Late Policy

Essays are due at the *beginning* of the class. By arriving after the first fifteen minutes of the class, the paper is considered late of one day. Extension of deadline is granted only due to illness, and must be followed by appropriate documents.

Late papers will be penalized 5% per day, for a maximum of three days. After three days, the paper automatically receives 'F' as grade for the assignment.

COURSE PROGRAM

September 9: Introduction

We start with an exposition and thorough explanation and expectations of the course and its assignments.

September 11: On the Nature and Study of Political Ideas

H.B. McCullough, *Political Ideologies*, Introduction.

Terry Eagleton, *Ideology: Introduction* (London: Verso, 1991), chapter 1.

September 16 & 18: Classical Liberalism

H.B. McCullough, *Political Ideologies*, chapter 2.

H.B. McCullough & Wolfgang Depner, *Reading in Political Ideologies*, chapter 2 & 3.

John Gray, *Two faces of liberalism* (New York : New Press, 2000).

September 23 & 25: Conservatism

H.B. McCullough, *Political Ideologies*, chapter 3.

H.B. McCullough & Wolfgang Depner, *Reading in Political Ideologies*, chapter 6 & 9.

Robert Devigne, *Recasting conservatism: Oakeshott, Strauss, and the response to postmodernism* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994)

September 30 & October 2: Reform Liberalism

H.B. McCullough, *Political Ideologies*, chapter 4.

H.B. McCullough & Wolfgang Depner, *Reading in Political Ideologies*, chapter 13, 14 & 16.

Norberto Bobbio, *Liberalism and Democracy*(London: verso, 1990).

October 7 & 9: Marxism

H.B. McCullough, *Political Ideologies*, chapter 5.

H.B. McCullough & Wolfgang Depner, *Reading in Political Ideologies*, chapter 17 & 21.

Leszek Kolakowski *Main Currents of Marxism*, 3 vols. (Oxford: Claredon Press, 1978).

October 14: Thanksgiving Day (University Closed)

October 16: Democratic Socialism

H.B. McCullough, *Political Ideologies*, chapter 6.

H.B. McCullough & Wolfgang Depner, *Reading in Political Ideologies*, chapter 24, 26 and 27.

Ronaldo Munck, *Marx @ 2000: Late Marxists perspectives* (London: Macmillan, 2000).

October 21 & 23: Fascism and National Socialism

H.B. McCullough, *Political Ideologies*, chapter 7.

H.B. McCullough & Wolfgang Depner, *Reading in Political Ideologies*, chapter 28 & 31.

Dave Renton, *Fascism: Theory and Practice* (London: Pluto Press, 1999).

October 28 & 30: Anarchism

H.B. McCullough, *Political Ideologies*, chapter 9.

Alexander Berkman, *What is anarchism?* (Edinburgh: AK Press, 2003).

Murray Bookchin, *Anarchism, Marxism, and the Future of the Left* (Edinburgh: AK Press, 1999).

November 4 & 6 Feminism

H.B. McCullough, **Political Ideologies**, chapter 11.

H.B. McCullough & Wolfgang Depner, *Reading in Political Ideologies*, chapter 46, 47 and 48.

Chris Beasley, *What is feminism? : An introduction to feminist theory* (London: SAGE, 1999).

Valerie Bryson, *Feminist debates: issues of theory and political practice* (New York: New York University Press, 1999).

November 11: Remembrance Day (University Closed)

November 13, 18 & 20: Neo-liberalism & Globalization

H.B. McCullough, *Political Ideologies*, chapter 10

H.B. McCullough & Wolfgang Depner, *Reading in Political Ideologies*, chapter 41, 42 and 43.

November 25 & 27: Environmentalism

H.B. McCullough, *Political Ideologies*, chapter 12.

H.B. McCullough & Wolfgang Depner, *Reading in Political Ideologies*, chapter 51, 52, 54.

John M. Meyer, *Political nature: environmentalism and the interpretation of Western thought* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2001).

December 2: Conclusion: Political Ideas today!