

LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE, 2023-2024

**LBCL 291: POLITICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL
FOUNDATIONS I**

Sect. A: Tu.Th.10:15-11:30	Sect. B: Tu.Th.11:45-13:00	Sect. C: Tu.Th. 13:15-14:30
Lab A: Tu. 9:00-9:45	Lab B: Tu. 9:00-9:45	Lab C: Tu. 9:00-9:45
Prof. J. Martineau (Fall)	Prof. N. Leddy (Fall)	Prof. N. Leddy (Fall)
Prof. J. Ferrell (Winter)	Prof. N. Leddy (Winter)	Prof. N. Leddy (Winter)

N.B.: ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED AT ALL LECTURES AND SEMINARS.

A pattern of non-attendance can result in a failing grade.

READINGS

Required readings can be purchased, or borrowed from the LAC library. If purchased, care to select the edition listed below. Pdf copies are also available on Moodle. All reading assignments must be prepared before each class.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Two **exams** are given in the regular periods (Dec. and Apr.). There are four **lecture quizzes** throughout the academic year (Oct. 24, Nov. 28, Mar. 5, Apr. 9). Students must write **three short essays/reflections** (850-1200 words) in the first semester (due Sept. 21, Oct. 26, & Nov. 30) each pertaining to specific seminar readings covered (1st on *Hebrew Bible*, 2nd on Plato's *Republic*, 3rd on any other Fall term reading). In the second semester, students must do an **oral presentation** on a chosen seminar reading. Students must also write a **book review** (2000 words) on a secondary source pertaining to an author or text from the second semester readings (due on Apr. 11). Students must submit a **proposal** for the book review (due on Mar. 21). Specific instructions on assignments will be provided by the course instructor.

Written assignments must be submitted on the required date; late submission will automatically lower the grade, according to the standard of the instructor. Students must keep copies of all submitted work.

Footnoting form and style must follow the guidelines in one of the recognized manuals of style such as the MLA, APA, or Chicago handbooks (available online through the Concordia library). Rules for Writers, by Diana Hacker, is also recommended and available in the LAC library.

FINAL GRADES

Final grades are based upon the following:

- 15%—Short Essays/Reflections
- 10%—Book review and Proposal

- 10%—Oral presentation
- 15%—Lecture Quizzes (based on lecture material)
- 10%—Participation & Attendance
- 20%—December Exam (Fall Semester Material)
- 20%—April Exam (Winter Semester Material)

LAC POLICY ON PLAGIARISM

In accordance with College and University regulations, plagiarism is strictly prohibited and will result in serious sanctions. Students must familiarize themselves with the code of rights and responsibilities of the university: <http://concordia.ca/vpirsg/documents/policies/BD-3.pdf>

LAC POLICY ON AI TEXT-GENERATING TECHNOLOGIES

The Liberal Arts College is committed to humanist education, and to training critical and creative thinkers and writers. Accordingly, the use of artificial intelligence by students to generate text for any course assignment, in part, whole, draft or finished form, is contrary to our principles, and therefore **strictly forbidden**.

While tools such as ChatGPT, Bard, or any other text-generating AI technology might be integrated as educational tools by your course instructor in precisely defined contexts and towards specific pedagogical goals, such text-generating technologies may not be used in any way by students without explicit permission from the instructor. Unauthorized use will be considered **plagiarism**, with sanctions ranging from **failing the assignment, failing the course, or expulsion** from the Liberal Arts program.

SCHEDULE: FIRST SEMESTER

TEXTS FOR FIRST SEMESTER

1. The New Oxford Annotated Bible 4th or 5th Edition, NRSV (any complete translation may be used).
2. Plato, Republic (Basic Books)
3. Thucydides, Peloponnesian Wars (Penguin)
4. Aristotle, Politics (Penguin)
5. Epicurus, Selected Writings (Hackett)
6. Marcus Aurelius, Meditations (Penguin)
7. Cicero, On Duties & The Republic (Oxford)

Recommended Textbook (for supplemental reading)

1. Kagan, Ozment & Turner, eds., The Western Heritage, 11th ed. Vol. I (Pearson). The textbook is available in the LAC library and on Moodle.

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
I	<u>Tues., Sept. 5</u>	Lecture: <i>INTRODUCTION / ANCIENT NEAR EAST</i> (Prof. Carty)
	<u>Tues., Sept. 5</u>	Seminar: <u>Genesis</u> , [Bible], 1-11
	<u>Thurs., Sept. 7</u>	Seminar: <u>Genesis</u> , 12-36

- II** Tues., Sept. 12 L: *HEBRAIC FOUNDATIONS I (Prof. Martineau)*
Tues., Sept. 12 S: Genesis, 37-50
Thurs., Sept. 14 S: Exodus, 1-24; 32-34; 40
- III** Tues., Sept. 19 L: *HEBRAIC FOUNDATIONS II (Prof. Martineau)*
Tues., Sept. 19 S: Deuteronomy, 1, 4-7, 10-11, 15, 17, 19, 29-31, 34; Leviticus, 18-20
Thurs., Sept. 21 S: Isaiah, 1-11; 52-56 ; 65-66
1ST SHORT ESSAY DUE
- IV** Tues., Sept. 26 L: *ANCIENT GREECE I (Prof. Martineau)*
Tues., Sept. 26 S: Plato, Republic, I
Thurs., Sept. 28 S: Plato, Republic, II-III
- V** Tues., Oct. 3 L: *ANCIENT GREECE II (Prof. Martineau)*
Tues., Oct. 3 S: Plato, Republic, IV-V
Thurs., Oct. 5 S: Plato, Republic, VI-VII

Week of Oct. 9 BREAK

- VI** Tues., Oct. 17 L: *WOMEN PHILOSOPHERS IN ANTIQUITY (Prof. Martineau)*
Tues., Oct. 17 S: Plato, Republic, VIII-IX
Thurs., Oct. 19 S: Plato, Republic, X
- VII** Tues., Oct. 24 L: *GREEK PHILOSOPHICAL SCHOOLS I (Prof. Martineau)* **QUIZ 1**
Tues., Oct. 24 S: Thucydides, Peloponnesian Wars, pp. 35-49, 103-108, 124-164.
Thurs., Oct. 26 S: Thucydides, Peloponnesian Wars, pp. 194-223, 400-409, 525-542.
2nd SHORT ESSAY DUE
- VIII** Tues., Oct. 31 L: *GREEK PHILOSOPHICAL SCHOOLS II (Prof. Martineau)*
Tues., Oct. 31 S: Aristotle, Politics, Book I (chaps. 1-13)
Thurs., Nov. 2 S: Aristotle, Politics, Book II (chaps. 1-5) and Book III (chaps. 1-5)
- IX** Tues., Nov. 7 L: *ANCIENT ROME, EARLY & REPUBLIC (Prof. Martineau)*
Tues., Nov. 7 S: Aristotle, Politics, Book III (chaps. 6-13); IV (chs. 1-12); Optional: VII (chaps. 1-3), VIII (chaps. 1-3)
Thurs., Nov. 9 S: Epicurus, Letter to Menoecus; The Principal Doctrines; The Vatican Collection.
[Google Drive & Moodle]
- X** Tues., Nov. 14 L: *THE ROMAN EMPIRE (Prof. Martineau)*
Tues., Nov. 14 S: Cicero, On Duties, Book I pp. 1-33 & “Dream of Scipio” [Google Drive & Moodle]
Thurs., Nov. 16 S: Marcus Aurelius, Meditations, Books 1-4, 6, 8 & 12.
- XI** Tues., Nov. 21 L: *EARLY CHRISTIANITY I (Prof. Carty)*
Tues., Nov. 21 S: Gospel of Matthew, chaps. 1-14
Thurs., Nov. 23 S: Gospel of Matthew, chaps. 15-28
- XII** Tues., Nov. 28 L: *EARLY CHRISTIANITY II (Prof. Carty)* **QUIZ 2**
Tues., Nov. 28 S: Paul, Letter to the Romans, chaps. 1-7
Thurs., Nov. 30 S: Paul, Letter to the Romans, chaps. 8-16
3rd SHORT ESSAY DUE

SCHEDULE: SECOND SEMESTER

TEXTS FOR SECOND SEMESTER

1. Augustine, City of God (Image Books)
2. Niccolò Machiavelli, Prince (Chicago)
3. Thomas More, Utopia (Yale)
4. Bartolome de las Casas, A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies (Penguin)
5. René Descartes, Discourse on Method (Penguin)
6. Blaise Pascal, Pensées (Penguin)
7. Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan (Penguin)
8. Margaret Cavendish, Political Writings (Cambridge)
9. Moodle & Google Drive Readings (Aquinas, Petrarch, Pico, Martin Luther, Teresa of Avilà)

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC
I	<u>Tues., Jan. 16</u>	L: <i>FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE</i> (Prof. Martineau)
	<u>Tues., Jan. 16</u>	S: Augustine, <u>City of God</u> , Part One, Books I-IV (pp. 1-66). Note: our LAC library has many copies of an earlier edition with different pagination.
	<u>Thurs., Jan. 18</u>	S: Augustine, <u>City of God</u> , Part One, Book V (67-88); Part Two, Book X, chaps 20-32 (pp. 172-180); Part Three, Book XI chaps. 1-30 (pp. 181-220); Book XIII chaps 1-15 (pp. 250-262).
II	<u>Tues., Jan. 23</u>	L: <i>FEUDALISM IN WESTERN EUROPE</i> (Prof. Carty)
	<u>Tues., Jan. 23</u>	S: Augustine, <u>City of God</u> , Part Four, Book XVIII, chaps. 43-54 (pp. 405-417); Part Five, Book XIX, chaps 13-19 (pp. 449-462); Book XX. chaps 1-30 (pp. 478-488); Book XXII, chaps 22-25 (pp. 515-529).
	<u>Thurs., Jan. 25</u>	S: Aquinas, <u>Summa Theologiae</u> , pp. 3-27 [Google Drive & Moodle]
III	<u>Tues., Jan. 30</u>	L: <i>THE HIGH MIDDLE AGES</i> (Prof. Carty)
	<u>Tues., Jan. 30</u>	S: Aquinas, <u>Summa Theologiae</u> , pp. 609-627 [Google Drive & Moodle]
	<u>Thurs., Feb. 1</u>	S: Aquinas, <u>Summa Theologiae</u> , pp. 628-650; 651-663; 678-681 [Google Drive & Moodle]
IV	<u>Tues., Feb. 6</u>	L: <i>FOURTEENTH CENTURY CRISIS</i> (Prof. Carty)
	<u>Tues., Feb. 6</u>	S: Petrarch, <u>On His Own Ignorance and That of Many Others</u> , pp. 49-93, <u>The Ascent of Mont Ventoux</u> [Google Drive & Moodle]
	<u>Thurs., Feb. 8</u>	S: Pico della Mirandola, <u>On the Dignity of Man</u> [Google Drive & Moodle]
V	<u>Tues., Feb. 13</u>	L: <i>THE RENAISSANCE I</i> (Prof. Carty)
	<u>Tues., Feb. 13</u>	S: Machiavelli, <u>The Prince</u> , chaps. 1-9
	<u>Thurs., Feb. 15</u>	S: Machiavelli, <u>The Prince</u> , chaps. 10-17
VI	<u>Tues., Feb. 20</u>	L: <i>THE RENAISSANCE II</i> (Prof. Carty)
	<u>Tues., Feb. 20</u>	S: Machiavelli, <u>The Prince</u> , chaps. 18-26
	<u>Thurs., Feb. 22</u>	S: More, <u>Utopia</u> , Book I

Week of Feb 26: BREAK

VII	<u>Tues., Mar. 5</u>	L: <i>AGE OF EXPANSION: CONQUEST, COLONIALISM AND THE RISE OF MODERN SLAVERY</i> (Prof. Martineau) QUIZ 3
	<u>Tues., Mar. 5</u>	S: More, <u>Utopia</u> , Book II
	<u>Thurs., Mar. 7</u>	S: Luther, <u>Freedom of a Christian</u> [Google Drive & Moodle]

- VIII Tues., Mar. 12 L: *THE REFORMATION* (Prof. Carty)
Tues., Mar. 12 S: Teresa of Ávila, The Book of Her Life, Preface, chaps. 8-10, 18, 20-21 [Google Drive & Moodle]
Thurs., Mar. 14 S: Bartolomé de las Casas, A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies, pp. 1-56, 71-79, 107-130; In Defense of the Indians, excerpts
- IX Tues., Mar. 19 L: *REFORM AND RELIGIOUS WARS* (Prof. Carty)
Tues., Mar. 19 S: Descartes, Discourse on Method, Books 1-4
Thurs., Mar. 21 S: Descartes, Discourse on Method, Books 5-6
- PROPOSAL DUE**
- X Tues., Mar. 26 L: *THE SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION* (Prof. Carty)
Tues., Mar. 26 S: Pascal, Pensées, Sect. 1, chaps. 1-14
Thurs., Mar. 28 S: Pascal, Pensées, Sect. 1, chaps. 15-27 & Section II, ch. 2: “the Wager”
- XI Tues., Apr. 2 L: *THE ENGLISH REVOLUTION* (Prof. Martineau)
Tues., Apr. 2 S: Hobbes, Leviathan, Frontispiece; “Dedication”; “Introduction”; “Of Man”, chaps. 1-4
Thurs., Apr. 4 S: Hobbes, Leviathan, “Of Man”, chaps. 5-6; 11-14
- XII Tues., Apr. 9 L: *THE ANCIEN RÉGIME* (Prof. Martineau) **QUIZ 4**
Tues., Apr. 9 S: Hobbes, Leviathan, “Of Commonwealth”, chaps. 17-18, 21, 24, 29
Thurs., Apr. 11 S: Cavendish, Political Writings, “The Blazing World”

BOOK REVIEW DUE

N. B. The Liberal Arts College employs the following grading norms in all its courses:

A = Excellent work in both content and presentation. The work answers all components of a question and/or fulfills all requirements set out in the instructions. It contains a clear and persuasive argument, a well-written and well-structured text that features a solid introduction and conclusion, and examples to illustrate the argument. Few, if any, presentation errors appear. The grade A+ will be awarded rarely, and only for exceptional work.

B = Solid in both content and presentation. The work is clear and well structured. Minor components of the argument might be missing, and there may be fewer illustrations. Some noticeable errors in presentation may have interfered with the general quality of the work.

C = Student demonstrates a limited understanding of the material. Ideas are presented in a style that is at least somewhat coherent and orderly. Occasional examples are provided to support the argument. Significant presentation errors affecting the quality of the work may be present. Major components of the assignment may have been omitted in the response.

D = Barely acceptable. Student has only a basic grasp of the material. Organization and development are often lacking. Few, if any, examples are provided to illustrate the argument. Major components of the assignment might have been neglected and major presentation errors hamper the work.

F = Shows an inadequate grasp of the material. The work has major errors of presentation and provides no supporting illustration for the argument. Ideas are not clear to the reader. The work lacks structure and does not fulfill the requirements of the course.

Policy regarding Absences

Participation in seminar discussion is essential at the Liberal Arts College. Hence a pattern of non-attendance in a course can result in a failing grade even if all papers and assignments are completed. A pattern of non-attendance is hereby defined as four (4) absences per semester for a course. Faculty members will determine whether a failing grade should be awarded in a given case, taking relevant circumstances into account. Students are expected to arrive on time and may be marked absent if they do not. Students should also keep in mind that absences will affect their participation grade.

Policy regarding Late Work

A grade of “INC” (incomplete) will only be granted in exceptional circumstances, including medical reasons. Permission to seek a grade of “INC” must be granted by the faculty member. Any student with more than one “INC” in a semester will have to meet with the Principal of the College.

All assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized by a lower grade unless a medical note is produced. Penalties for lateness will be explained by faculty members at the beginning of the semester.
