

LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE

2023-2024

LBCL 391: POLITICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATIONS II

Section A: Tu-Th 11:45-1:00
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Format

The course is based upon seminar discussions and lectures. Students are expected to prepare assigned readings prior to every seminar, and to contribute to discussions.

Requirements

- There will be an examination at the end of each term (Dec and Apr).
- Students are required to submit two short essays: 1500-2000 words each, the first on **October 24**, the second on **November 30**. The short essays focus on required readings for the appropriate time period.
- Students must do an **oral presentation** on a chosen seminar reading.
- Students must submit a **research paper** in the second term. First, students must meet with the instructor to get the topic approved. Second, a proposal for the research paper is due by **March 21** and will count towards the final grade for this assignment. The final paper is due on **April 11**. ***There will be no extensions of the due dates.*** Students may submit a first draft for comment, ***but no later than two weeks before the paper is due.***
- Attendance is required. A pattern of non-attendance may result in a failing grade.

*Detailed instructions for assignments will be provided in class. All assignments must be submitted on the required date; failure to do so will automatically lower the grade according to the standard of the instructor.

Grading

Attendance and participation.....	10%
Two (2) short essays.....	20%
Oral presentation.....	10%
Research paper.....	20%
(including proposal)	
December examination.....	20%
April examination.....	20%
	100%

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 Chat GPT, 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.

Texts for the First Semester

1. B. Spinoza, Theological-Political Treatise, (Hackett).
2. J. Locke, Second Treatise of Government, (Hackett).
3. Montesquieu, Selected Political Writings, M. Richter (ed.), (Hackett).
[De l'esprit des lois, (Folio ou Garnier-Flammarion).]
4. Voltaire, Candide, (Penguin).
5. J. J. Rousseau, The Basic Political Writings (2nd ed), D.A. Cress (ed.), (Hackett).
[Discours sur l'inégalité/Du Contrat Social (Flammarion).]
6. D. Hume, Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding, (Hackett).
7. I. Kant, Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals, (Hackett).
8. O. Equiano, The Interesting Narrative, (Oxford).
9. American Documents, The Declaration of Independence, The Constitution, and Federalist Papers (selections).
10. E. Burke, Reflections on the Revolution in France, (Hackett).
11. M. Wollstonecraft, Vindication of the Rights of Woman, (Penguin)

FIRST SEMESTER SCHEDULE

<u>WK</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC/TEXT</u>
1	Sept. 5	(L) ENLIGHTENMENT: 1680-1789
	Sept. 7	Spinoza, <u>Theological-Political Treatise</u> , Preface; chs 1-4, 6,7,11
2	Sept. 12	Spinoza, <u>Ibid.</u> , chs 12-14,16,19-20
	Sept. 14	Locke, <u>Second Treatise</u> , Preface; chs 1-6
3	Sept. 19	Locke, <u>Ibid.</u> , chs 7-12,19
	Sept. 21	Montesquieu: <u>Selected Political Writings</u> , <u>The Spirit of the Laws</u> , Preface; Introduction; Books I-V, VIII, pp.106-174
4	Sept. 26	Montesquieu, <u>Ibid.</u> , Books XI, XIV, XV, XIX, XXIV-XXV, pp.179-242
	Sept. 28	Voltaire, <u>Candide</u> , (entire)
5	Oct. 3	Rousseau, <u>Discourse on Inequality</u> , (entire)
	Oct. 5	Rousseau, <u>Social Contract</u> , Book I (entire), Book II, chs 1-4, Book III, ch. 15, Book IV, chs 7,8,9, pp. 156-176, 218-220, 241-252.
<u>Week of Oct 9. Break, no class.</u>		
6	Oct. 17	Hume, <u>Enquiry</u> , chs 1-7
	Oct. 19	Hume, <u>Ibid.</u> , chs 8, 10-12
7	Oct. 24	(L) KANT AND KANTIAN THOUGHT
		*First short essay due
	Oct. 26	Kant, <u>Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals</u> , Preface; 1 st section, pp. 1-17
8	Oct. 31	Kant, <u>Ibid.</u> , 2 nd section, pp. 19-48
	Nov. 2	Kant, <u>Ibid.</u> , 3 rd section, pp. 49-62

9	Nov. 7	Equiano, <u>The Interesting Narrative</u> , Vol. I, pp. 18-104
	Nov. 9	Equiano, <u>Ibid.</u> , Vol. II, pp. 105-194
10	Nov. 14	American Documents, <u>Declaration of Independence</u> ; <u>Constitution</u> ; <u>Federalist</u> : nos. 10, 37, 51
	Nov. 16	(L) THE FRENCH REVOLUTION
11	Nov. 21	Burke, <u>Reflections on the Revolution in France</u> , pp. 3-79
	Nov. 23	Burke, <u>Ibid.</u> , pp. 150-218
12	Nov. 28	Wollstonecraft, <u>Vindication of the Rights of Woman</u> , Introduction; chs 1-3
	Nov. 30	Wollstonecraft. <u>Ibid.</u> , chs 4, 6-7, 12
		*Second short essay due

MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Texts for the Second Semester

1. A. Smith, The Wealth of Nations, (Hackett).
2. G. Hegel, Introduction to the Philosophy of History, (Hackett).
3. G. Hegel, Phenomenology of Spirit, (Oxford).
4. A. de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, (Hackett).
[De la Démocratie en Amérique, (Flammarion).]
5. J.S. Mill, On Liberty and Other Essays, (Oxford).
6. C. Darwin, The Descent of Man, (Penguin Classics).
7. K. Marx & F. Engels, The Marx-Engels Reader, R.C. Tucker (ed.), (Norton).
8. K. Marx, Capital, vol. 1, (Penguin).
9. E. Durkheim, Suicide, (Free Press).
[Le Suicide, (P.U.F.).]
10. F. Nietzsche, The Genealogy of Morals, (Vintage).
11. M. Weber, The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism, (Routledge).
12. W.E.B. Du Bois, The Souls of Black Folk, (Penguin).

SECOND SEMESTER SCHEDULE

<u>WK</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC/TEXT</u>
1	Jan. 16	Smith, <u>The Wealth of Nations</u> , Book I, chs.1-4,7-8, pp. 1-49
	Jan. 18	Smith, <u>Ibid.</u> , Book II, chs.1,3; Book IV, chs.1-2, pp. 49-58, 67-83, 116-136
2	Jan. 23	(L) HEGELIAN PHILOSOPHY
	Jan. 25	Hegel, <u>Introduction to the Philosophy of History</u> , chs 1-3
3	Jan. 30	Hegel, "Lordship and Bondage," in <u>Phenomenology of Spirit</u> , ch. 4, pp. 111-119
	Feb. 1	Tocqueville, <u>Democracy in America</u> , Intro.: pp. 1-15; Vol. I, Part 1, chs 3-4, pp. 34-44; Vol. I, Part 2, chs 7-10, pp. 102-167
4	Feb. 6	Tocqueville, <u>Ibid.</u> , Vol. II, Part I, Pref., chs 1,2,5,6, 8,10,14,15,20, pp. 169-200; Vol. II, Part II, chs 8-13, pp. 219-233; Vol. II, Part IV, ch. 6, pp. 304-309
	Feb. 8	Mill, <u>Utilitarianism</u> , ch. 2, pp. 136-158; <u>On Liberty</u> , chs 1-2, pp. 5-61
5	Feb. 13	Mill, <u>On Liberty</u> , chs 3-5, pp. 62-128
	Feb. 15	Darwin, <u>The Descent of Man</u> , Intro; Pt. I, chs 1,3,4
6	Feb. 20	Darwin, <u>Ibid.</u> , Pt.I, ch.7; Pt. II, ch.8; Pt.III, chs19 & 21
	Feb. 22	Marx, "The Paris Manuscripts," (excerpts) in <u>Marx-Engels Reader</u> , pp. 70-81, 101-105; <u>Capital</u> , vol. 1, ch.1, sec. 4, pp. 163-177.
Week of Feb 26. Break, no class.		
7	Mar. 5	Marx, <u>Capital</u> , vol. 1, ch. 15, sec. 1-5, 10, pp.

		492-564, 636-639; ch. 26, pp. 873-876, ch. 31, pp. 914-926
	Mar. 7	Marx & Engels, "The Manifesto of the Communist Party," sec. 1-2, in <u>Marx-Engels Reader</u> , pp. 473-491
8	Mar. 12	(L) EUROPE, FIN-DE-SIÈCLE, 1875-1914
	Mar. 14	Durkheim, <u>Suicide</u> , Preface, Intro, Book One, chs 2, 4, pp. 35-53, 82-103, Book Two, ch. 2, pp. 152-170, ch. 3, pp.180-216
9	Mar. 19	Durkheim, <u>Ibid.</u> , Book Two, ch. 4, pp. 217-230, ch. 5, pp. 241-276; Book Three, ch. 3, pp. 361-392
	Mar. 21 *Proposal due	Nietzsche, <u>Genealogy of Morals</u> , Preface; First Essay
10	Mar. 26	Nietzsche, <u>Ibid.</u> , Second Essay
	Mar. 28	Nietzsche, <u>Ibid.</u> , Third Essay
11	Apr. 2	Weber, <u>Protestant Ethic</u> , Intro & Part I
	Apr. 4	Weber, <u>Ibid.</u> , Part II
12	Apr. 9	Du Bois, <u>The Souls of Black Folk</u> , chs 1-7
	Apr. 11 *Long paper due	Du Bois, <u>The Souls of Black Folk</u> , chs 8-15

FINAL EXAMINATION

Selective Complementary Reading

Studies in history and intellectual history of the period

Louis Althusser, Montesquieu, Rousseau, Marx.

Perry Anderson, Lineages of the Absolutist State.

Raymond Aron, Main Currents in Sociological Thought, Vols. 1 & 2.

J. Bennet, Locke, Berkeley, Hume: Central Themes.

Isaiah Berlin, Four Essays on Liberty.
 Ernst Cassirer, The Philosophy of the Enlightenment.
 A.P. D'Entreves, Natural Law.
 Peter Gay, The Enlightenment: An Interpretation, 2 Vols.
 R. Heilbroner, The Worldly Philosophers.
 Eric J. Hobsbawm, The Age of Revolution, 1789-1848 (Abacus).
 Eric J. Hobsbawm, The Age of Capital, 1848-1875 (Abacus).
 Eric J. Hobsbawm, The Age of Empire, 1875-1914.
 H. Stuart Hughes, Consciousness and Society, 1890-1930.
 Jonathan Israel, Radical Enlightenment: Philosophy and the Making of Modernity, 1650–1750.
 Jonathan Israel, Democratic Enlightenment: Philosophy, Revolution, and Human Rights 1750–1790.
 J. Joll, Europe Since 1870.
 Domenica Losurdo, A Counter-history of Liberalism.
 Charles Mills, The Racial Contract.
 Terry Pinkard, German Philosophy 1760–1860: The Legacy of Idealism.
 J.G.A. Pocock, Virtue, Commerce & History: Essays on Political Thought and History.
 R. Porter, Enlightenment.
 George Rudé, The Crowd in the French Revolution.
 R.N. Stromberg, European Intellectual History Since 1789.
 Leo Strauss & Joseph Cropsey (eds), The History of Political Philosophy.
 Leo Strauss, Natural Right and History. (On Locke, Rousseau and Burke)
 Charles Taylor, Sources of the Self.
 Ellen M. Wood, Liberty and Property.

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.
