Seminar in Political Theory
POT 6007
Spring 2013

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Phillips Hall

SYLLABUS

This course examines the emergence and development of liberalism. Liberal conceptions of the individual, society and the state will be examined. Furthermore, ideas about toleration, representation, legitimacy and reason will also serve as guideposts for our inquiries. The last four weeks of the course will examine the controversies over liberalism in the 20th century.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Hobbes	*Leviathan* (Norton Critical Edition)
Locke	*The Selected Political Writings of John Locke* Norton Critical Edition)
Rousseau	*Rousseau's Political Writings* (Norton Critical Edition)
J.S. Mill	*Mill* (Norton Critical Edition)
Sandel	*Liberalism and Its Critics*

REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance and Participation	10% of Final Grade
Presentation	10% of Final Grade
Two 1000 word essays	40% of Final Grade
One 3000-4000 word essay	40% of Final Grade

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Date	Topic	Readings
1/9	Introduction	
1/16	Hobbes	*Leviathan* Chapters 1-31
1/23	Hobbes	Strauss, Tuck, Hampton, Johnston, Kateb and Flathman
1/30	Locke	*Second Treatise of Government* and *A Letter Concerning Toleration*

2/6	Locke (First Essay Due)	McPherson, Tully, Taylor and Ashcroft
2/13	Rousseau	*Discourse on Inequality* & *Discourse on Political Economy*
2/20	Rousseau	*On Social Contract*
2/27	Rousseau	Leigh, Nisbet, Shklar, Wolff, Weil and Barber
3/6	SPRING BREAK	
3/13	Mill	"The Spirit of the Age" *On Liberty* Berlin and Rees
3/20	Mill	*The Subjection of Women* Okin
3/27	Contemporary Liberals (Second Essay Due)	Sandel Ch. 1-3
4/3	Contemporary Conservatives	Sandel Ch. 4-5
4/10		
4/17	Other Liberals	Sandel Ch. 6-9
4/24	Other Liberals?	Sandel Ch. 10-12

Notes on Essays:

1. Essays will lose 1 grade for each day late.
2. Essays will lose 1 grade for not including a word count at the end of the paper.
3. Essays will lose 1 grade for exceeding recommended word count.
4. Essays will lose ½ grade for having more than three grammatical and spelling errors per 500 words.