University of Central Florida
Ancient, Medieval, and Early Modern Political Philosophy
Spring 2021
POT 4025 – OW61

Instructor: Dr. Lynne Gleiber
E-Mail: lynne.gleiber@ucf.edu
Office hours: Tuesdays, 7-8 am and by appointment – All office meetings will be held via Zoom. Please contact me to receive a Zoom invitation.
I will respond to emails within 48 hours.

Purpose and Course Description

This course is designed to provide an overview of several major works in political philosophy in the Ancient, Medieval, and Early Modern periods. In addition to examining the works themselves we will delve into themes embedded in the works such as the relationship between public and private matters and political underpinnings that are relevant to current systems of government. We will also examine the theories of the self or human nature put forth in the works.

Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete the course will have obtained:

- Knowledge of several major works in political philosophy
- Knowledge of the relevance of these works in government and civil society
- A variety of conceptions of the relationship between the person and the state.

Expectations for Student Performance

1. ***Course Requirements***

Work assignments must be completed on time.

2. ***Required text book;***

Political Philosophy; The Essential Texts (3rd. edition) – Steven M. Cahn, Oxford University Press

3. ***Examinations and Grading***

Your grade will be based on three exams and graded activities connected to the module pages. Two exams will be given during the semester and a final exam will be given at the end of the semester on the dates listed in the course plan. Students will use their textbooks to complete all assignments.

In the interest of fairness to all students, extra credit work will not be given. If a student misses an exam, he or she must provide sufficient justification for doing so (e.g. a documented emergency) to qualify for a make-up-exam. If documentation is not provided a make-up exam will not be given. It is the responsibility of the student to contact me (by telephone, voice mail or e-mail) before or immediately after the missed exam to discuss the possibility of being given a make-up exam**.**

4. ***Academic Integrity***

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. For clarification of what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/ . Students are Violations of the rules addressing academic integrity stated in The Golden Rule will result in documentation of the infraction and a grade of zero for the work in question. Confirmation of academic dishonesty an also result in expulsion from the University of Central Florida.

5. ***Attendance and Withdrawal***

Students are expected to participate in all course activities and are responsible for withdrawing from the course if he or she decides not to complete it. Students who discontinue participation, and do not withdraw will fail the course.

Grading Distribution

Final grades will be composed as follows:

Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Final exam	25%
Module Activities	25%

Special Needs

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Ferrell Commons Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from me for the course. Once Student Disability Services has been contacted, I am happy to make any arrangements needed by my students.

Campus Safety Statement

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of their surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Students should make a note of the guide's physical location and review the online version at http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html.
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, students may need to access a first-aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those are located, see http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html (click on link from menu on left).

- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to ucf.edu and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on the Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert", fill out the information, including e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK."
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.
- To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video.

Required statement from the University regarding COVID-19:
University-Wide Face Covering Policy for Common Spaces and Face-to-Face Classes
To protect members of our community, everyone is required to wear a facial covering inside all common spaces including classrooms (https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf. Students who choose not to wear facial coverings will be asked to leave the classroom by the instructor. If they refuse to leave the classroom or put on a facial covering, they may be considered disruptive (please see the Golden Rule for student behavior expectations). Faculty have the right to cancel class if the safety and well-being of class members are in jeopardy. Students will be responsible for the material that would have been covered in class as provided by the instructor.

Notifications in Case of Changes to Course Modality
Depending on the course of the pandemic during the semester, the university may make changes to the way classes are offered. If that happens, please look for announcements or messages in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email about changes specific to this course.

COVID-19 and Illness Notification
Students who believe they may have a COVID-19 diagnosis should contact UCF Student Health Services (407-823-2509) so proper contact tracing procedures can take place.
Students should not come to campus if they are ill, are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID, or if anyone living in their residence has tested positive or is sick with COVID-19 symptoms. CDC guidance for COVID-19 symptoms is located here: (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)
Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss class for any illness reason to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing class.

In Case of Faculty Illness
If the instructor falls ill during the semester, there may be changes to this course, including having a backup instructor take over the course. Please look for announcements or mail in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email for any alterations to this course.

Course Accessibility and Disability COVID-19 Supplemental Statement

Accommodations may need to be added or adjusted should this course shift from an on-campus to a remote format. Students with disabilities should speak with their instructor and should contact sas@ucf.edu to discuss specific accommodations for this or other courses.

Course Plan

The following is a schedule of readings, exams, and assignments for the course. Adjustments may be made if necessary, because of emerging situations. Please note that if classes are suspended for any reason, students should attempt to adhere to the dates of readings and assignments listed below unless advised to do otherwise.

Module 1: Ancient
Week 1 - Jan. 11-15 Plato - Defense of Socrates
Week 2 - Jan. 18-22 Plato- The Republic
Week 3 - Jan 25-29 Aristotle - Nichomachean Ethics
Week 4 - Feb. 1-5 Aristotle - Politics
Week 5 - Feb. 8-12 Exam 1
Module 2: Mediaeval
Week 6 - Feb. 15-19 Augustine - City of God
Week 7 - Feb. 22-26 Aquinas - Summa Theologiae
Week 8 - Mar. 1-5 Special topics
Week 9 - Mar. 8-12 Exam 2
Module 3: Early Modern
Week 10 - Mar. 15-19 Locke - Treatise on Government and Letter Concerning Toleration
Week 11 - Mar. 22-26 Montesquieu - The Spirit of the Laws
Week 12 - Mar. 29 - Apr. 2 Rousseau - Discourse on Inequality and Of the Social Contract
Week 13 - Apr. 5-9 Smith - Wealth of Nations
Week 14 - Apr. 12-16 Spring Break
Week 15 - Apr. 19- 23 Alexis de Tocqueville - Democracy in America
Week 16 - April 26 Last day of semester
Final Exam: April 28-29