



EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER, 2007
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A: Division: **EDUCATION** Effective Date: **SEPTEMBER 2007**

B: Department / **POLITICAL SCIENCE** Revision New Course
 Program Area: **FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES**

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **D,F,H,M,N,O,P,Q**
 Date of Previous Revision: **June 2004**
 Date of Current Revision: **April 2007**

C: POLI 2201 D: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY E: 3

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits						
<p>F: Calendar Description: This course introduces students to selected great thinkers of Western political theory who inspired others to critically assess their political thinking and understanding of citizenship. Their ideas will serve as the starting point for appraising the relationship between politics and philosophy and the search for justice and the good life. What makes authority legitimate? What freedoms can citizens claim? What are rights? What does justice require? This course is intended for students without any formal background in political theory or philosophy.</p>								
<p>G: Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings</p> <p>Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:</p> <p>Lecture Seminar</p> <p>Number of Contact Hours: (per week /semester for each descriptor)</p> <p>Lecture: 2 hrs. per week Seminar: 2 hrs. per week</p> <p>Number of Weeks per Semester: 15</p>	<p>H: Course Prerequisites:</p> <p>POLI 1100 or POLI 1101 or Permission of Instructor</p>							
	<p>I: Course Corequisites:</p> <p>NONE</p>							
	<p>J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite</p> <p>NONE</p>							
	<p>K: Maximum Class Size:</p> <p>35</p>							
<p>L: PLEASE INDICATE:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50px; border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Non-Credit</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>College Credit Non-Transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>College Credit Transfer:</td> </tr> </table> <p>SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bctransferguide.ca)</p>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Credit	<input type="checkbox"/>	College Credit Non-Transfer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	College Credit Transfer:
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M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate how political thinking developed and evolved within the Western political tradition;
2. Understand and analyse basic concepts and principles such as justice, equality, rights, obligation, power, authority, law, and freedom;
3. Assess how these basic concepts and principles influenced the development of political thought and ideologies, political and social institutions, law, constitutions, and communities.

N: Course Content

1. Philosophy and Politics
2. The Greeks: Plato and Aristotle
3. The Medieval Era: Aquinas and Machiavelli
4. The Early Moderns: Hobbes and Locke
5. The Moderns: Rousseau, Marx, and Mill
6. Contemporaries: Rawls and Dworkin

O: Methods of Instruction

Methods of instruction will include formal lectures combined with seminars. Formal and informal discussions and class presentations may also be assigned to deepen the knowledge of the student. Videos, case studies, and other in-class projects may be used in teaching this course.

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students

Textbooks and readers will be chosen based on individual instructor preferences in consultation with, and approval from, the Department of Political Science. There are a range of textbooks and readers that can be used. One example is:

Porter, Jene, M. *Classics in Political Philosophy*. 3rd ed. Englewood Cliff, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 2000.

Q: Means of Assessment

The course evaluation will be based on the course objectives in accordance with Douglas College policy and the policies of the Department of Political Science. A minimum of 50% of the students' grades will be assigned to the mid-term and end of term examinations. A minimum of 30% of the students' grades will be assigned to formal term papers. A maximum of 20% of students' grades will be based on a series of components, including, but not limited to: quizzes, short essays, attendance, participation, and class presentations. The specific evaluative criteria will be provided by the instructor at the beginning of the course.

One example of an evaluation scheme:

Mid-Term Exam	25%
Term Paper	30%
Article Critique/Book Review	10%
Participation	10%
Final Exam	<u>25%</u>
	100%

R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No.

Course Designer(s): Dr. Darin Nesbitt

Education Council/Curriculum Committee Representative

Dean / Director

Registrar