

# DS: Historical and Political Thought

## Spring 2021

[MW schedule](#)

[TTh schedule](#)

### Discussion Sections:

Norma Thompson MW 2:30-3:45

David Sorkin MW 2:30-3:45

Stuart Semmel MW 1-2:15

Timothy Kreiner TTH 2:30-3:45

Benjamin Barasch MW 1-2:15

Terence Renaud TTH 1:00-2:15

Dan Schillinger MW 9-10:15

### Texts (Yale University Bookstore):

Niccolò Machiavelli, *Selected Political Writings*, ed. David Wootton (Hackett)

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan* ed. E. Curley (Hackett)

John Locke, *Second Treatise on Government* ed. C.B. Macpherson (Hackett)

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Major Political Writings of Jean-Jacques Rousseau: The Two "Discourses" and the "Social Contract,"* trans. and ed. John T. Scott (University of Chicago Press, 2014).

Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France* ed. Conor Cruise O'Brien (Penguin)

Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America* trans. H. Mansfield and D. Winthrop (Chicago)

Karl Marx, *Selected Writings* (Hackett)

Friedrich Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals* trans. Walter Kaufmann (Vintage)

W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk* ed. Jonathan Holloway (Yale)

Hannah Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism* (Harcourt, Inc.)

## Lectures and Reading, Monday/Wednesday schedule:

### Week 1

Lecture: Daniel Schillinger on Machiavelli

Feb 1: Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Letter to Vettori, Dedication, chs. 1-14.

Feb 3: Machiavelli, *The Prince*, chs. 15-26.

### Week 2

Lecture: Daniel Schillinger on Hobbes

Feb 8: Machiavelli, *The Discourses*, Book 1, Preface, Chapters 1-6 (pp. 81-101), 9-13, 16-17 (pp. 107-26), 26-27 (pp. 131-33), 34 (pp. 137-39); Book 2, Chapter 2 (pp. 165-71); Book 3, Chapter 1 (pp. 189-93) and 31 (pp. 208-11).

Feb 10: Hobbes, *Leviathan* chs. 1, 5-6, 10-14.

### Week 3

Lecture: Norma Thompson on Locke

Feb 15: Hobbes, *Leviathan* chs. 16-18, 20-21, 29-30.

Feb 17: Locke, *Second Treatise on Government* chs. 1-12.

### Week 4

No lecture.

Feb 22: No class.

Feb 24: Locke, *Second Treatise on Government* chs. 13-19.

### Week 5

Lecture: Stuart Semmel on Rousseau and the French Enlightenment

March 1: Rousseau, *Second Discourse*: Dedication, Preface, Part 1 (including notes IX and XV).

March 3: Rousseau, *Second Discourse*: Part 2.

### Week 6

Lecture: Terence Renaud on Rousseau, Kant, and the German Enlightenment

March 8: *Social Contract*, Books 1-2.

March 10: Kant, PDF: “What is Enlightenment?” “Idea for a Universal History.”

## Week 7

Lecture: Stuart Semmel on the early French Revolution and Burke

March 15: French Revolution Documents, PDF: Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyès, *What Is the Third Estate?* (extracts); “Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen”; Olympe de Gouges, “Declaration of the Rights of Women.”

March 17: Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, pp. 84-134, 140-141.

## Week 8

Lecture: Terence Renaud on Burke and the late French Revolution

March 22: Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, pp. 148-53, 163-95, 228-31, 266-73, 285-86, 373-77.

March 24: No class.

## Week 9

Lecture: Norma Thompson on Tocqueville

March 29: *Federalist*, PDF: 1, 10, 37, 51.

March 31: Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*: Vol. I: Introduction, Part 1 ch. 2 (pp. 27-32, 35-40, 43), chs. 3-4, ch. 5 (pp. 56-58), Part 2 chs. 1, 3-4, 5 (pp. 187-90); 7-8.

## Week 10

Lecture: Benjamin Barasch on Hegel

April 5: Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*: Vol. II Notice, Part 2 chs. 1-5, 8-10, 20, Part 3 chs. 1-2, 8-12, 21 Part 4 chs. 6-8.

April 7: Hegel, PDF: “Lordship and Bondage” from *Phenomenology of Spirit* and selections from Hegel’s Introduction to *Lectures on the Philosophy of History*.

## Week 11

Lecture: Timothy Kreiner on Marx

April 12: Marx, “The Communist Manifesto” (pp. 157-186).

April 14: Marx, *Capital*, “The Commodity” (pp. 220-243), “Primitive Accumulation” (pp. 294-297), and “Historical Tendency” (pp. 297-300).

## Week 12

Lecture: Benjamin Barasch on Nietzsche

April 19: Nietzsche, *Genealogy of Morals*, Preface and Essays 1 and 2.

April 21: Nietzsche, *Genealogy of Morals*, Essay 3.

## Week 13

Lecture: David Sorkin on Du Bois

April 26: Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*, chs. 1-5.

April 28: Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*, chs. 10-14; pdf: “Souls of White Folk.”

## Week 14

Lecture: David Sorkin on Arendt

May 3: Hannah Arendt, *Origins of Totalitarianism*, Preface, vii-ix; 3-10; 123-157; 222-227; 290-302.

May 5: Hannah Arendt, *Origins of Totalitarianism*, 437-459; 474-479; PDF: “Personal Responsibility Under a Dictatorship.”

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## Lectures and Reading, Tuesday/Thursday schedule:

### Week 1

Lecture: Daniel Schillinger on Machiavelli

Feb 2: Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Letter to Vettori, Dedication, chs. 1-14.

Feb 4: Machiavelli, *The Prince*, chs. 15-26.

## **Week 2**

Lecture: Daniel Schillinger on Hobbes

Feb 9: Machiavelli, *The Discourses*, Book 1, Preface, Chapters 1-6 (pp. 81-101), 9-13, 16-17 (pp. 107-26), 26-27 (pp. 131-33), 34 (pp. 137-39); Book 2, Chapter 2 (pp. 165-71); Book 3, Chapter 1 (pp. 189-93) and 31 (pp. 208-11).

Feb 11: Hobbes, *Leviathan* chs. 1, 5-6, 10-14.

## **Week 3**

Lecture: Norma Thompson on Locke

Feb 16: Hobbes, *Leviathan* chs. 16-18, 20-21, 29-30.

Feb 18: Locke, *Second Treatise on Government* chs. 1-12.

## **Week 4**

No lecture.

Feb 23: Locke, *Second Treatise on Government* chs. 13-19.

Feb 25: Rousseau, *Second Discourse*: Dedication, Preface, Part 1 (including notes IX and XV).

## **Week 5**

Lecture: Stuart Semmel on Rousseau and the French Enlightenment

March 2: Rousseau, *Second Discourse*: Part 2.

March 4: *Social Contract*, Books 1-2.

## **Week 6**

Lecture: Terence Renaud on Rousseau, Kant, and the German Enlightenment

March 9: No class.

March 11: Kant, PDF: "What is Enlightenment?" "Idea for a Universal History."

## **Week 7**

Lecture: Stuart Semmel on the early French Revolution and Burke

March 16: French Revolution Documents, PDF: Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyès, *What Is the Third Estate?* (extracts); “Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen”; Olympe de Gouges, “Declaration of the Rights of Women.”

March 18: Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, pp. 84-134, 140-141.

## **Week 8**

Lecture: Terence Renaud on Burke and the late French Revolution

March 23: Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, pp. 148-53, 163-95, 228-31, 266-73, 285-86, 373-77.

March 25: *Federalist*, PDF: 1, 10, 37, 51.

## **Week 9**

Lecture: Norma Thompson on Tocqueville

March 30: Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*: Vol. I: Introduction, Part 1 ch. 2 (pp. 27-32, 35-40, 43), chs. 3-4, ch. 5 (pp. 56-58), Part 2 chs. 1, 3-4, 5 (pp. 187-90); 7-8.

April 1: Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*: Vol. II Notice, Part 2 chs. 1-5, 8-10, 20, Part 3 chs. 1-2, 8-12, 21 Part 4 chs. 6-8.

## **Week 10**

Lecture: Benjamin Barasch on Hegel

April 6: Hegel, PDF: “Lordship and Bondage” from *Phenomenology of Spirit* and selections from Hegel’s Introduction to *Lectures on the Philosophy of History*.

April 8: No class.

## **Week 11**

Lecture: Timothy Kreiner on Marx

April 13: Marx, “The Communist Manifesto” (pp. 157-186).

April 15: Marx, *Capital*, “The Commodity” (pp. 220-243), “Primitive Accumulation” (pp. 294-297), and “Historical Tendency” (pp. 297-300).

## **Week 12**

Lecture: Benjamin Barasch on Nietzsche

April 20: Nietzsche, *Genealogy of Morals*, Preface and Essays 1 and 2.

April 22: Nietzsche, *Genealogy of Morals*, Essay 3.

### **Week 13**

Lecture: David Sorkin on Du Bois

April 27: Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*, chs. 1-5.

April 29: Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*, chs. 10-14; pdf: "Souls of White Folk."

### **Week 14**

Lecture: David Sorkin on Arendt

May 4: Hannah Arendt, *Origins of Totalitarianism*, Preface, vii-ix; 3-10; 123-157; 222-227; 290-302.

May 6: Hannah Arendt, *Origins of Totalitarianism*, 437-459; 474-479; PDF: "Personal Responsibility Under a Dictatorship."