

Directed Studies: Historical and Political Thought
Spring 2022
(Revised for Academic Calendar Change)

Lectures: Mondays 11:35am-12:25pm

Discussion Seminars:

Benjamin Barasch TTh 2:30-3:45
Bryan Garsten MW 2:30-3:45
Jette Gindner TTh 1:00-2:15
Anthony Kronman MW 1:00-2:15
Timothy Kreiner TTh 9-10:15
Daniel Schillinger TTh 2:30-3:45
Stuart Semmel TTh 1:00-2:15

Books:

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

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

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

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *The Major Political Writings of Jean-Jacques Rousseau*. Ed. John T. Scott (University of Chicago).

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

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

Marx, Karl. *Selected Writings*. (Hackett).

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

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

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

Lectures and Reading Assignments

Weekly lectures provide historical and intellectual context to help frame the week's readings and discussions. Attendance at both lectures and seminars is required. Reading assignments for each discussion section are indicated separately, though your instructor may modify the focus in each section.

1. Machiavelli, *The Prince* and *The Discourses on Livy*

Lecture: Monday, January 31 [Daniel Schillinger]

Discussions (beginning on January 25):

- i) Letter to Vettori; *The Prince*, Dedication and chapters 1-14.
- ii) *The Prince*, chapters 15-26.
- iii) *Discourses on Livy*, Book I: Preface, chapters 1-6 (pp. 81-101), 9-13, 16-17 (pp. 107-26), 26-27 (pp. 131-33), 34 (pp. 137-39); Book II, chapter 2 (pp. 165-171); Book 3, chapter 1 (pp. 189-93) and 31 (pp. 208-11).

2. Hobbes, *Leviathan*

Lecture: Monday, February 7 [Bryan Garsten]

Discussions:

- i) *Leviathan*, Introduction, chapters 1-6, 10-14
- ii) *Leviathan*, chapters 16-18, 20-21, 29-30.

3. Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*

Lecture: Monday, February 14 [Anthony Kronman]

Discussions:

- i) *Second Treatise*, chapters 1-12
- ii) *Second Treatise*, chapters 13-19

4. Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality* (“Second Discourse”) and *Social Contract*

Lecture: Monday, February 21 [Daniel Schillinger]

Discussions:

- i) *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*, Dedication, Preface, and Part I (including Notes IX and XV)
- ii) *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*, Part II
- iii) *Social Contract*, Books I-II

5. Revolutions in the United States and France

Lecture: Monday, February 28 [Stuart Semmel]

Discussions:

- i) *Declaration of Independence* and *Federalist Papers* #1, 10, 37, 51 [PDFs]
- ii) 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.” [PDFs]

6. Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*

Lecture: Monday, March 7 [Stuart Semmel]

Discussions:

- i) *Reflections*, pp. 84-134, 140-141
- ii) *Reflections*, 148-53, 163-95, 228-31, 266-73, 285-86, 373-77

7. Kant and Hegel on Enlightenment and History

Lecture: Monday, March 14 [Timothy Kreiner]

Discussions:

- i) Kant, “What is Enlightenment?” and “Idea for a Universal History” [PDFs]
- ii) Hegel, PDF: “Lordship and Bondage” from *Phenomenology of Spirit* and selections from Hegel’s Introduction to *Lectures on the Philosophy of History* [PDFs]

8. Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*

Lecture: Monday, March 28 [Benjamin Barasch]

Discussions:

- i) *Democracy in America*, Vol. I, pp. 3-18, 27-32, 35-40, 43, 45-53, 56-58, 165, 172-90, 235-64
- ii) *Democracy in America*, Vol. II, pp. 399-400, 479-92, 500-08, 530-32, 535-41, 558-76, 606-17, 661-76

9. Marx, *Communist Manifesto* and *Capital*

Lecture: Monday, April 4 [Jette Gindner]

Discussions:

- i) *The Communist Manifesto*, pp. 157-186
- ii) *Capital*, “The Commodity” (pp. 220-243), “Primitive Accumulation” (pp. 294-297), and “Historical Tendency” (pp. 297-300)

10. Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals*

Lecture: Monday, April 11 [Benjamin Barasch]

Discussions:

- i) *On the Genealogy of Morals*, Preface, Essay 1, Essay 2
- ii) *On the Genealogy of Morals*, Essay 3

11. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*

Lecture: Monday, April 18 [Brandon Terry]

Discussions:

- i) *Souls of Black Folk*, chapters 1-5, 8
- ii) *Souls of Black Folk*, chapters 10-14; “Souls of White Folk” [PDF]

13. Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*

Lecture: Monday, April 25 [Anthony Kronman]

Discussions:

- i) *Origins of Totalitarianism*, Preface, vii-ix; pp. 3-10; 123-157; 222-227; 290-302.
- ii) *Origins of Totalitarianism*, pp. 437-459; 474-479; “Personal Responsibility Under a Dictatorship” [PDF]