

HUMAN BEING AND CITIZEN

Government 1012

Fall 2017

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Office Hours:
MTTh 4-5 or
by appt.

“For the argument is not about just any question, but about the way one ought to live one’s life.”—Plato, *Republic*, 352d

This course introduces students to the fundamental issues of political philosophy: human nature; the relationship between individual and community; the nature of justice; the place of virtue; the ideas of freedom and equality; the role of property and rights; and the meaning of democracy. Readings span both ancient and modern philosophical literature. Authors include Thucydides, Plato, Aristotle, Locke, Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton, and Tocqueville.

As a first-year seminar, the class is discussion-based and writing-intensive. This means that you must carefully read the assignment for every class, participate actively in class discussion, and write analytic essays on the assigned reading. I will have more to say on each of these heads in my introduction to the class, and I will hand out guidelines for paper-writing with the first paper assignment.

Books (available for purchase through Chegg)

Plato, *The Trial and Death of Socrates*. Translated by G.M.A. Grube. Third Edition. Indianapolis: Hackett, 2000.

Aristotle, *The Politics*. Second Edition. Translated by Carnes Lord. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013.

John Locke, *Two Treatises of Government*. Edited by Peter Laslett. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1988.

The Federalist Papers. Edited by Clinton Rossiter. New York: Signet, 2003.

Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*. Edited by J. P. Mayer. New York: Harper Collins, 1966.

Requirements

1. Regular and active class participation (15% of grade).
2. Five analytic papers, approximately 5-7 pages in length, based on assigned reading (85%).

Reading Assignments

Sept. 4	“Pericles’ Funeral Oration” (e-reserve) and chap. 3 of D. Kagan’s <i>Pericles of Athens</i> (e-reserve)
Sept. 6	<i>Apology</i>
Sept. 11	<i>Crito</i>
Sept. 13	Selection from <i>Republic</i> (e-reserve)
Sept. 18	<i>Politics</i> , Bk. I, chaps. 1-2; selection from Bk. I of <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> (e-reserve)
Sept. 20	Bk. I, chaps. 3-13
Sept. 24	Bk. III, chaps. 1-9
Sept. 26	Bk. III, chaps. 10-18
Oct. 2	Bk. IV, chaps. 1-5, 8-9, 11; Bk. VII, chaps. 1, 13-15; Bk. VIII, chap. 3
Oct. 4	<i>Second Treatise</i> , chaps. 1-3 (pp. 267-82)
Oct. 9	Fall Break
Oct. 11	chaps. 4-5
Oct. 16	chaps. 7-8
Oct. 18	chaps. 9-12
Oct. 23	chaps. 13-14, 19 (pp. 406-18, 426-28)
Oct. 25	<i>Declaration of Independence</i> (pp. 528-32) <i>Constitution of the United States of America</i> (pp. 542-68)
Oct. 30	Selections from <i>Anti-Federalist Papers</i> (e-reserve)

Nov. 1	<i>Federalist Papers</i> , nos. 1, 6, 9
Nov. 6	nos. 10, 14-16
Nov. 8	nos. 23, 37, 39, 47-48, 51
Nov. 13	nos. 55, 63, 70-72, 78, 84

Nov. 15	<i>Democracy in America</i> , pp. 9-20, 31-47
Nov. 20	pp. 58-72, 87-98, 196-205, 221-45

Nov. 22	Thanksgiving
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Nov. 27	pp. 246-70, 287-308
Nov. 29	pp. 503-30
Dec. 4	pp. 530-49, 691-705
Dec. 6	Concluding discussion

Writing Assignments

Sept. 19	Paper on Thucydides and Plato due
Oct. 6	Paper on Aristotle due
Oct. 27	Paper on Locke due
Nov. 17	Paper on Jefferson, Federalists, and Anti-Federalists due
Dec. 11	Paper on Tocqueville due

