

HUMAN BEING AND CITIZEN

Government 1012

Fall 2018

Paul Franco
Hubbard Hall 17
pfranco@bowdoin.edu; 725-3381

Office Hours:
MTW 4:15-5:30
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, equality, liberalism, and democracy; the role of history; and the ambiguities of scientific progress. Readings span both ancient and modern philosophical literature. Authors include Thucydides, Plato, Aristotle, Locke, Rousseau, Mill, and Nietzsche.

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 at <https://bowdoin.ecampus.com/>)

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.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Major Political Writings of Jean-Jacques Rousseau*. Edited by John Scott. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2012.

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty and Other Writings*. Edited by Stefan Collini. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989.

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. 3	“Pericles’ Funeral Oration” (Blackboard) and chap. 3 of D. Kagan’s <i>Pericles of Athens</i> (Blackboard)
Sept. 5	<i>Apology</i>
Sept. 10	<i>Crito</i>
Sept. 12	<i>Republic</i> , 473b-502c (Blackboard)
Sept. 17	502c-521c (Blackboard)
Sept. 19	<i>Politics</i> , Bk. I, chaps. 1-2; selection from Bk. I of <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> (Blackboard)
Sept. 23	Bk. I, chaps. 3-13
Sept. 25	Bk. III, chaps. 1-9
Oct. 1	Bk. III, chaps. 10-18
Oct. 3	Bk. IV, chaps. 1-5, 8-9, 11; Bk. VII, chaps. 1, 13-15; Bk. VIII, chap. 3
Oct. 8	Fall Break
Oct. 10	<i>Second Treatise</i> , chaps. 1-4 (pp. 267-85)
Oct. 15	chaps. 5-6
Oct. 17	chaps. 7-8
Oct. 22	chaps. 9-12
Oct. 24	chaps. 13-14, 19 (pp. 406-18, 426-28)
Oct. 29	<i>Discourse on the Sciences and Arts</i> (pp. 1-36)
Oct. 31	<i>Discourse on the Origin of Inequality</i> , pp. 51-73 (top) plus notes
Nov. 5	pp. 73-90 plus notes
Nov. 7	pp. 91-117 plus notes; Epistle Dedicatory (pp. 41-50)

Reading Assignments (cont.)

Nov. 12	<i>On Liberty</i> , chap. 1 and chap. 2 (pp. 19-36)
Nov. 14	chap. 2 (pp. 37-55)
Nov. 19	chap. 3
Nov. 21	Thanksgiving
Nov. 26	chaps. 4-5
Nov. 28	<i>Uses and Disadvantages of History</i> , Foreword and secs. 1-4 (Blackboard)
Dec. 3	secs. 5, 7-9 (Blackboard)
Dec. 5	sec. 10 (Blackboard)

Writing Assignments

Sept. 21	Paper on Thucydides and Plato due
Oct. 12	Paper on Aristotle due
Oct. 30	Paper on Locke due
Nov. 16	Paper on Rousseau due
Dec. 14	Paper on Mill and Nietzsche due