

Department of Political Science
MWF 2-2:50 pm
Center 105
Fall, 2008
Office Hrs: WF 12:00-1:30

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POLITICAL SCIENCE 110 A

HISTORY OF POLITICAL THOUGHT I:

Citizens and Saints: Plato to Augustine

TEXTBOOKS:

Thucydides, <u>The Peloponnesian War</u> , ed. Wick	(McGraw-Hill)
Plato, <u>Republic</u> , trans. Reeve	(Hackett)
Plato, <u>Euthyphro, Apology, Crito</u> , translated Church	(Prentice-Hall)
Aristotle, <u>The Politics</u> , trans. Barker	(Oxford)
<u>The Holy Bible</u>	(World Bible)
Saint Augustine, <u>The City of God</u> , translated Bettenson	(Penguin)

This course deals with the development of European political thought from ancient Greece to Christianity at the close of the Roman Empire. It is meant to be both historical and conceptual in its approach, drawing as well on certain literary works for insights into the culture of politics. Topics to be addressed include: transitions from aristocratic societies to more democratic polities, the emergence of concepts of justice and law, the nature of political judgment and leadership, and the relation to politics of self, religion, and the pursuit of knowledge.

There are no prerequisites for this course, though Political Science 13 and a knowledge of European history would be valuable. Because so much of the course deals with the ancient world, a brief bibliography of useful works is provided in the syllabus, along with some chronology.

There are two requirements for this course:

- 1) a 10 page take-home midterm exam, due **November 7**, based on assigned topics;
- 3) a comprehensive in-class final examination, **December 10, 3-6 pm**.

INTRODUCTION: JUSTICE AND GREEK POLITICS

(September 26)

Weeks 1-4: POLITICAL JUDGMENT, WAR, AND DEMOCRACY:
THUCYDIDES

(September 29, October 1-17)

Required:

Thucydides, Peloponnesian War,

September	29	Introduction	
		I	
October	1, 3	II chs.	1-70
	6, 8, 10, 13	III	1-90
		IV	1-88, 103-9, 117-19
		V	1-26, 42-48, 84-116
	15, 17	VI	1-42, 53, 60-61, 72-93
		VII	52-87
		VIII	1-4, 24-27, 45-56, 63-76, 81-93, 96-98, 108-109

Weeks 4-6: PHILOSOPHY, JUSTICE, AND THE IDEAL CITY:
PLATO

(October 20-November 9)

Required:

October	20, 22	Plato, <u>Apology</u> , <u>Crito</u>
	24, 27	Plato, <u>Republic</u> , Books 1, 2
October	29, 31	-----, <u>Republic</u> , Books 3, 4
November	3, 5	-----, <u>Republic</u> , Books 5, 6, 7
	7	-----, <u>Republic</u> , Books 8, 9

Weeks 7-8: THE VARIETIES OF POLITICS:
ARISTOTLE (November 10-21)

Required:

Aristotle, Politics

November	10, 12	I	
	14, 17	II	chs. 1-5
		III	
	19, 21	IV	chs. 1-13
		V	
		VII	chs. 1-3, 7, 9, 13-15

Weeks 8-10: HEBREWS, CHRISTIANS, AND POLITICS (November 24, 26,
 December 1-5)

Required:

Hebrew Bible

November	24, 26	Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy 4, Isaiah 44-66
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New Testament

December	1	Matthew, Romans, Galatians, I Corinthians
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Augustine, City of God

December	3, 5	I	chs. 1, 9, 33, 35
		III	1
		IV	1-4, 9-12
		V	Preface, 1, 8-11, 13, 15-17, 19, 21, 24
		VIII	1-4, 11-12
		XI	1-4
		XIV	1-4
		XVII	3
		XVIII	1, 2, 41-43, 46-47
		XIX	4-8, 11-17, 21, 22, 24, 25
		XX	1, 2

SOME USEFUL DATES

B.C.2000-1500

Myceneans settle in Greece
 Abraham in Canaan
 Stonehenge built
 Hammurabi's Code

1500-1000

c. 1275-1225 Moses
 c. 1270-1180 Trojan Wars
 c. 1250 Hebrews re-enter Canaan
 c. 1200 End of Mycenaean civilization in Greece
 c. 1002 Saul
 c. 1000 Invasion of Greece by Dorians

1000-500

1000-925 David and Solomon in Israel
 c. 900-600 The great Hebrew prophets – Elijah, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Ezekiel,,
 Jeremiah
 c. 800 Homer composes Iliad, Odyssey
 776 First Olympic Games
 c. 753 Rome founded
 c. 750 Beginning of Greek colonization of west
 c. 750 Nobility of Attica settle Athens
 c. 625 Invention of coinage
 c. 600 Nebuchadnezzar takes Jerusalem, takes Hebrews to Babylonia
 Much of Hebrew Bible written down
 c. 630-553 Zoroaster in Persia
 c. 604-? Lao-Tse in China
 c. 594 Archonship of Solon (640-560) in Athens
 c. 563-483 Buddha in India
 c. 551-479 Confucius in China
 561-510 Tyranny of Peisistratids in Athens
 c. 535 Tragedy introduced in Athens, Thespis wins first prize
 538 Cyrus of Persia conquers Babylon, returns Hebrews to Jerusalem
 509 Establishment of Roman Republic
 508 Democracy introduced in Athens by Cleisthenes

500 B.C. -1 AD

- 490-479 Persian Wars
- 472 Aeschylus, The Persians, produced in Athens (oldest extant tragedy)
- 477 Formation of Delian League by Athens
- 458 Aeschylus, Oresteia
- 450 Twelve Tables of the Law in Rome
- 442 Sophocles, Antigone
- 431-404 The Peloponnesian War
- 429 Death of Pericles (b. 500)
- c. 428 Sophocles, Oedipus Tyrannos
- 413 Failure of the Sicilian Expedition
- 404 Defeat of Athens by Sparta
- 401 Sophocles, Oedipus at Colonus
- 399 Execution of Socrates
- 387 Plato founds Academy at Athens
- 338 Defeat of Athens by Philip II of Macedon
- c. 335 Aristotle, Poetics
- 336-323 Alexander the Great
- c. 295 Euclid
- 146 Carthage sacked by Rome
- 47-44 Dictatorship of Julius Caesar at Rome
- 30 Establishment of Roman Empire
- c. 4 Birth of Jesus

A.D.1-500

- c. 30 Crucifixion of Christ
- 45 St. Paul begins his mission
- 65 Seneca commits suicide
- 67 St. Peter executed
- 70 Revolt of the Jews against Rome; Jerusalem destroyed
- 85 Gospels of John and Matthew
- 122-135 Revolt of the Jews against Rome
- 200 Bishop of Rome becomes Pope
- 285 Partition of Rome into Eastern and Western Empires
- c. 300 Christianity introduced into Armenia
- 313 Toleration of Christianity in Rome – Edict of Milan
- 331 Seat of Roman Empire moves to Constantinople
- 337 Emperor Constantine baptized

410	Rome sacked by Visigoths
411	Augustine's <u>City of God</u>
432	St. Patrick begins mission to Ireland

B.C.

Solon	640-560.	Socrates	c. 469-399
Aeschylus	c. 525-455	Thucydides	c. 460-c. 400
Sophocles	c. 496-c. 406	Plato	c. 427-347
Pericles	c. 494-429	Aristotle	384-322
Herodotus	c. 494-c. 420	Cicero	106-43
Euripides	484-c. 406		

A.D.

Augustine	354-430
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