

FREEDOM AND DISCIPLINE: POLITICAL THOUGHT IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

The last 100 years have seen much of the best and of the worst in human history. Why have they run, as it were, in parallel? The course explores this matter and deals with various understandings of the relation between individuals and the socio/political order in the 20th century. You are asked to buy the following books:

Carl Schmitt, *Political Theology*
 Max Weber, *The Vocation Lectures*
 Tracy B. Strong, ed. *The Self and the Political Order*
 Hannah Arendt, *The Portable Hannah Arendt*
 A Reader from University Readers

REQUIREMENTS: attendance (note as the course meets once a week, if you miss a class you have missed a week); the reading (do before the class in which it will be discussed); a short midterm paper; an in-class final.

READINGS

April 1: Introduction;

The appeal of community: Film: *The Triumph of the Will* (Riefenstahl)

April 8: What is political leadership? Carl Schmitt, *Political Theology*; Heidegger, *The Self-Assertion of the German University* in *Reader*

April 15: Controlling the masses: Bettelheim in Strong; Connolly in Strong

April 22, 29: Liberalism and liberty: Rawls, Sen in Strong; Berlin in *Reader*

PAPER DUE May 6

May 6: What can we know about what is to be done? Weber, *The Vocation Lectures*

May 13: The question of technology: humans and nature: Benjamin in *Reader*; Heidegger, *The Question Concerning Technology* in *Reader*

May 20, 27: Alternative visions of the self and the political order: Plato, Kant, Hume, Strong, Adkins (Homer and Haraway in *Reader*)

June 3: Arendt, TBA

Final Exam: June 12, 7-10PM (sorry)