

PS 110A: Citizens and Saints: Political  
Thought from Thucydides to St. Augustine  
Fall 1998  
MWF 10:10-11:00am  
CSB 001

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Office Hours: M 11:10-12,  
F 11:10-12 and 4-5

## Description

This course is an introduction to the political thought of classical antiquity. The goal of the course is to understand the aims and arguments of some important and influential thinkers. As the course title suggests, we will be particularly attentive to the way ancient authors conceived the meaning and value of citizenship and its alternatives. Grades will be determined by performance on three short papers.

## Books [available at Groundwork Books]

- 1) Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War* (Hackett)
- 2) Aristophanes, *Lysistrata and Other Plays* (Penguin)
- 3) Plato, *The Trial and Death of Socrates* (Hackett, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)
- 4) Plato, *Republic* (Hackett, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)
- 5) Aristotle, *Politics* (Hackett)

## Coursepack Readings [available at Soft Reserves]

- 1) Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, trans. Terence Irwin, Hackett (1985): 116-147 [Book 5]
- 2) Seneca, *The Stoic Philosophy of Seneca*, trans. Moses Hadas, W.W. Norton (1958): 137-165 ["On Clemency"]
- 3) St. Augustine, *City of God*, trans. Henry Bettenson, Penguin (1972): 196-216, 571-594, 843-894 [Books 5.11-21, 14.12-28, 19 (entire)]

## Reading and Paper Schedule

- Week 1 [9/28-10/2]: Aristophanes, *Acharnians*, *Lysistrata*
- Week 2 [10/5-10/9]: Thucydides, Bks. I (pars. 1-44, 66-88, 118-146), II (1-65), III (1-85) [pp. 3-24, 32-43, 56-71, 74-108, 132-172]
- Week 3 [10/12-10/16]: Thucydides, Bks. IV (1-41, 55-88, 102-8), V (1-26, 39-48, 84-116), VI (1-93); VII (3-87) [pp. 189-209, 214-229, 235-239, 254-267, 273-279, 294-301, 306-354, 361-407]

*First Paper Assigned, 10/14*

*First Paper Due, 10/19*

- Week 4 [10/19-10/23]: Aristophanes, *Clouds*; Plato, *Apology*
- Week 5 [10/26-10/30]: Plato, *Crito*, *Republic*, Bks. 1-4
- Week 6 [11/2-11/6]: Plato, *Republic*, Bks. 5-10

*Second Paper Assigned, 11/4*

*Second Paper Due, 11/9*

- Week 7 [11/9-11/13]: Aristotle, *Politics*, Bks. 1, 2 (chs. 1-5); *Ethics*, Bk. 5 (coursepack selection)
- Week 8 [11/16-11/20]: Aristotle, *Politics*, Bks. 3, 4 (chs. 1-12), 5 (1-9, 12), 6 (1-5)
- Week 9 [11/23-25]: Seneca, "On Clemency" (coursepack selection)
- Week 10 [11/30-12/4]: St. Augustine, *City of God* (coursepack selections)

*Third Paper Assigned, 12/2*

*Third Paper Due, final exam date*