

Political Science 200: Survey of Political Theory

College of Southern Nevada – Henderson Campus

PSC 200 - 4301 – In Person PSC 200 - 1301 – Web Remote { Coyote Flex – Hybrid Course }

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Office Location: C 100B

Office Hours: Online and In Person

Wednesday: 10am to 10:30am – 12:30pm to 1pm / Office

Monday: 10am – 12:30pm / Office

Tuesday / Thursday – 11am to 12noon – Online

Additional Office Hours also Offered by Appointment

{Survey of Political Theory: Course Description}

PSC 200: Survey of Political Theory: Survey of Theory from Plato to the present. Among the thinkers whose works will be explored are Aristotle, St. Thomas Aquinas, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau and Karl Marx. This course will also examine the exposition and critical analysis of major thinkers such as Plato, Aristotle, St. Augustine, Friedrich Engels, John Stuart Mills, Mo Tzu, Confucius and more. In this survey of Political Theory questions such as forms of government, citizenship, justice, happiness, rhetoric, religion, emotion will be explored and analyzed. There will also be an examination of and interpretation of theorists who have focused their analyses on social and political problems of the 19th and 20th century such as Cornel West, Jurgen Habermas, Elizabeth Spelman, Jorge Valadez, Mary Wollstonecraft Michel Foucault, Mohandas Ghandi, Immanuel Kant, Marie le Jars de Gournay, Bartolome de Las Casas, Abu'l A'la Mawdudi, Alasdair MacIntyre, Charles Taylor, John Rawls, and so many more theorist to analyze and explore.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze how different political philosophers conceptualize human nature and how these differing conceptions shape and inform their political theories.
2. Analyze how the theories of major political philosophers inform the practice of politics.
3. Assess the tension between the individual and the collective under various political regimes.
4. Explore the nature of constitutional democracy and what this form of government entails.
5. Evaluate how modern political debates are informed by political philosophy.

Required Texts / Instructional Materials

Text: by James P. Sterba – Social and Political Philosophy Thomson Wadsworth Publishers / ISBN: 0-534-60210-X / Co. 2003

Text: by Laurie M. Bagby - Political Thought – A Guide To The Classics Wadsworth Publishers / ISBN: 0-534-55877-1 / Co. 2000

(Important Note – The Bagby text has now been converted into a reader and is out of print. I had the text republished through the authors permission and is now sold as a reader via the Henderson Campus Bookstore.)

Weekly Readings- Lecture / Discussion Outline:

Week 1 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Bagby Ch. 1 / Sterba Ch. 2, Sections 4, 5, 7, Ch. 3

Week 2 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Bagby Ch. 1 -Continued & 2 / Sterba Ch. 2, Sections - 4, 5, 7

Week 3 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Sterba Ch. 3 Begin Reading Whole Chapter
(Essay Exam #1 – Due)

Week 4 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Bagby Ch. 3 & Sterba Ch. 4, Sections - 9, 10, 11, 12, & 13

Week 5 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Bagby Ch. 4, 5 / Sterba Ch. 6, Sections 22

Week 6 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Bagby Ch. 6 / Sterba Ch. 7
(Essay Exam #2 – Due)

(Spring Break – No Class and Campus Is Closed: March 11th, 2024 to March 17th, 2024)

Week 7 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Bagby Ch. 8 / Sterba Ch. 8 Sections 30, 31, 33, 34

Week 8 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Sterba Ch. 9
{Research Paper Topics Due – Via Email} / (Mid-Point of the Semester)

Week 9 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Bagby Ch. 9 / Sterba Ch. 10
(Essay Exam #3 – Due)

Week 10 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Bagby Ch. 9 Continued / Sterba Ch. 11

Week 11 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Sterba Ch. 13

Week 12 - Lecture Discussion / Readings: Sterba Ch. 14
Essay Exam #4 – Due)

Week 13 – Lecture Discussion / Readings: Sterba Ch. 15

Week 14 – Lecture Discussion / Readings Continued: Visual Lecture / Film Analysis

Week 15 - Lecture Discussion / **Essay Exam #5 Due)**

Week 16 – Lecture Discussion / **Course Summary and Review**

Course Grading Policies/ Method of Evaluation:

(5) Essay Exams Submitted Online- 65%
Content Based Online Discussions - 20%
In Class / Remote Attendance and Participation 15%
= Total 100%

Grade Scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A	93.0-100.0	4.0
A-	90.0- 92.9	3.7
B+	87.0- 89.9	3.0
B	83.0- 86.9	3.0
B-	80.0- 82.9	2.7
C+	77.0-79.9	2.3
C	73.0-76.9	2.0
C-	70.0-72.9	1.7
D+	67.0-69.9	1.3
D	63.0-66.9	1.0
F	0.0-62.9	0.0

ADA STATEMENT:

It is the policy of College of Southern Nevada to provide reasonable and appropriate accommodations for individuals with documented disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable Federal and State laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required affording equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Office of Students with Disabilities if he/she desires to arrange for exam and lecture accommodations. Contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in the Student Center of each CSN campus. You may also obtain information through the college website at www.csn.nevada.edu. The phone numbers for the disability office on each campus are: Cheyenne: (702) 651-4045; Henderson: (702) 651-3086; West Charleston: (702) 651-5089. **Note:** If you have a physical, emotional, or mental disability that “substantially limits one or more major life activities (including walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working),” and will require accommodation in this class, please contact the DRC at WC (702) 651-5644 , or email at WCDRCStaff@csn.edu at NLV (702) 651-4045, or email at CYDRCStaff@csn.edu and at HNC (702) 651-3795, or email at HCDRCStaff@csn.edu. For Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services contact (702) 651- 4448, or email at Deaf.HH.Services@csn.edu. Students that receive accommodation letters, please meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as soon as possible.

Detailed Course Method of Evaluation and Assessment:

Final Paper / Exam #5– Based on Readings, Lectures, Film Theory Analysis and Selected Political Philosophers studied this semester. Research the impact of their theory on civil society, governmental systems and interpersonal relations. How have their theories concerning power had long standing implications for today's civil society and political governance. Thoroughly explore the way in which theoretical ideals formulate the basis for revolutions, new regimes and governmental systems of power and even oppression.

In Person & Remote Attendance and Participation - 15%

Assessment Essay Exams (5): 65% of the total grade

Online Discussions 20% of the total grade (To Enhance Content Comprehension)

Total for all assessment method and evaluation methods = 100%

Important Note: There is no midterm exam and cumulative based final exam in this course.

PSC 200 - 1301:

This section will be taught remotely online using teleconference technology. Students enrolled in this section will be attending this lecture off-campus using Canvas Learning, Microsoft Teams and teleconference technology to be able to meet face-to-face with the instructor and classmates each Wednesday from 11am to 12:20pm for (16) weeks, the entire Fall Semester. A computer with a webcam will be required and needed for attendance and participation in this section Fall Semester 2023. This is how students will be able to interact with other classmates and faculty who will be meeting in-person at the same time. This class is a Coyote Flex course. This class is a Coyote Flex course. For more information on Coyote Flex courses, please visit www.csn.edu/CoyoteFlex.

PSC 200 - 4301:

This section is an in-person course that meets every week on Wednesday from 11am to 12:20pm for (16) weeks, the entire Fall Semester. Students enrolled in this section will meet at the Henderson Campus C227. You will be able to interact and engage with students attending this course via web remote. Note- you must follow all active CSN public health directives while attending this class. CSN public health directives website <https://at.csn.edu/covid-19>. This course may move to a fully online setting should the need arise due to COVID-19 or another unforeseeable situation. This class is a Coyote Flex course. For more information on Coyote Flex courses, please visit www.csn.edu/CoyoteFlex.

Very Important Dates: Spring Semester 2024

1/16/24 – First Day of Instruction Spring Semester 2024

1/22/24 – Last Day to Drop For A Full Refund – 16 Week Session

1/29/24 – Last Day to Drop Without a Grade of W – 16 Week Session

2/19/24 - Presidents Day Holiday, No Classes CSN Campus Closed

3/3/24 - Last Day to Apply for Spring Graduation

3/11/24 to 3/17/24 – Spring Break – CSN Campus Closed

3/29/24 – Last Day to Apply for Credit to Audit – 16 Week Session

3/29/24 – Last Day to Drop With a Grade of W – 16 Week Session

5/12/24 - Last Day of Instruction – 16 Week Session

5/13/2024 - Commencement ' CSN College Graduation

5/14/24 – Final Grades Submitted via MYCSN

ACADEMIC ETHICS:

The College may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. **Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to using AI in online discussions and any course assessment in PSC 101.** Academic dishonesty also includes using statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree and or **the submission as one's own work material that is not your own. This is plagiarism.** Scholastic dishonesty may involve but is not limited to one or more of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, use of annotated texts or teacher's editions and /or falsifying academic records. **Plagiarism is the use of an author's words or ideas as if they were one's own without giving credit to the source, including, but not limited to, failure to acknowledge a direct quotation.**

Cheating is the willful giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination, illicitly obtaining examination questions in advance, copying computer or Internet files, using someone else's work for assignments as if it were one's own, or any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course including the utilization of AI software to write your essay exams and your online discussion post. This will result in a grade of F. Collusion is intentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to providing a paper or project to another student, providing an inappropriate level of assistance; communicating answers to a classmate during an examination; removing tests or answer sheets from a test site, and allowing a classmate to copy answers.

If you are unsure about what it is and is not plagiarism, you can learn more about it by speaking to staff at a CSN campus writing center or library or consulting the CSN Library Services' **Plagiarism guide: <http://libguides.csn.edu/research-101/cite>.** The minimum sanction for plagiarism is an F on the assignment; repeated offenses carry an F for the class as the minimum penalty.

I am a Non – Traditional Professor. I teach utilizing the Socratic Method of Dialogue and Discussion. I lecture extensively and utilize Political music, films and engage lively in class discussions to enhance the learning process. Should you choose to take this class with me sit back and enjoy the ride- you will learn a lot and enjoy the process while doing so. My goal is to create a space for student empowerment and the facilitation of civic engagement by helping you to understand the value of becoming a part of the public sphere – the political realm where even the personal is political. *Professor La Della Lyn Levy M.A,M.Ed*



Post Pandemic Response & Support Services:

“Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS), for a list of resources and support.”

Centers for Academic Success:

Centers for Academic Success (CAS) provides quality DROP-IN academic assistance to all students enrolled in for-credit courses at CSN. CSN CAS Tutors are available online through Smarthinking, which is accessed in the Canvas online learning management system. View a tutorial video on how to access CSN Tutors/Learning Assistants online at [How to Access CSN Tutors in Smarthinking](#).

You may choose “Submit a Question” if you don’t have time for a live session. A Tutor responds to offline questions within 24 hours. Contact us at one of campus phone numbers, and we will assist you with accessing all learning support. Academic learning support includes assistance with placement test preparation, learning strategies, Canvas, Smarthinking online tutoring, Microsoft Office, reading, writing, oral presentations, math, and science.

CAS Tutors also provide support in facilitating study groups. You may experience embedded learning assistance in one of your first-year courses. Professors and CAS Staff will make you aware of how to access services as part of your course curriculum. CAS is open Monday through Sunday to be more accessible to all students – Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Friday – Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Smarthinking tutors are available 24/7.

You may visit www.csn.edu/centers-academic-success for more details or contact us at one of our offices during our regular operational hours: Charleston Centers (702-651-5732), North Las Vegas Learning Commons (702-651-4232), Henderson Learning Commons (702-651-3125).

Additional Services and Resources:

“Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) –

The Counseling and Psychological Services CAPS offers short-term, problem-focused counseling to CSN students who may feel overwhelmed by the responsibilities of college, work, family, and relationships. Clinicians are available to help students cope with stresses and personal issues that may interfere with their ability to perform in school. The service is provided confidentially and free to currently enrolled students. **To schedule an appointment, please call CAPS at WC (702) 651-5518, at NLV (702) 651-4099, and at HN (702) 651-3099.”**

For the Online Chapter Content Based Online Discussions: You are responsible for evaluating the topic of discussion and based on the assigned readings engage in a discussion / response to the topic posted. You are to respond to two posts from fellow students and you are to discuss the topic presented for discussion / analysis to receive full credit for this portion of the course requirements. Your response post is to be based on the readings, issues in current politics and your own experience. Make sure in your response post to cite the assigned text reading in order to receive credit for your post in the online discussion. The online discussions, posts and responses are worth a total of 20% of your final grade. This is significant because it can affect (1) entire letter grade if full credit is not earned, your overall grade will be impacted by non-participation in this section of the course. ***Quote the assigned reading in your post analysis.** The use of AI in these discussions will produce an F.

Participation in the online discussions in the course is a course requirement not an option

Important Course Questions and Answers: How does a Hybrid / Hyflex course in Political Science differ from a non-hybrid / hyflex course? The same content is taught with the expectation that you monitor your time and keep your course due dates on a scheduler so that you won't forget assignments that need to be completed. Read the weekly course announcements. They serve as a guide through the course. These course announcements also provide important reminders of assignment due dates and give you course updates. You meet in person once a week for 16 weeks to attend lecture / discussion, peer engagement and content analysis. Students registered in the web-remote lecture section will also meet at the same time via Microsoft Teams. Please be visible so that there is interaction and engagement with the in-person attendees in this course, PSC 200 Survey of Political Theory. Attendance is graded and required in this course. It is worth 15% of your grade in the class. Your overall grade in the course will be adversely affected and impacted if you do not attend this class weekly. If you can't attend periodically, please email me so that you can be excused. I will excuse an absence for medical or other extenuating circumstances.