



PHIL3120: Social and Political Philosophy

| 2023 Summer Session | |
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| Class Sessions Per Week: 5 | Instructor: TBA |
| Total Weeks: 5 | Classroom: TBA |
| Total Class Sessions: 25 | Office Hours: TBA |
| Class Session Length (Minutes): 145 | Language: English |
| Credit Hours: 4 | |

Course Description:

Almost everyone lives in society. But what is a good society and what is a just state? We will find answers in influential works of great political philosopher.

This course provides a survey of the issues and problems in the field of social and political Philosophy. The course begins with a brief historical background in reviewing the key elements of the political philosophies of Plato and Aristotle, then turn to the survey of the issues in social and political philosophy in modern philosophy. Upon completion students will develop a better understanding of crucial issues that frame contemporary political debate, including democracy and freedom, power, class and violence, race and gender, etc.

The reading materials make heavy demands on their readers' analytical and interpretive skills. Our discussions and writing assignments will focus on the arguments in these works. Through class discussion and written assignments, the course also aims to develop critical thinking as well as oral and written communication skills.

Course Materials

Reading materials will be distributed by the instructor in the class.

Course Format and Requirements:

To advance course aims, you will be required to read certain texts, to participate in class discussions, and to complete some written assignments.

Your attendance is mandatory. You will be required to sign in at the beginning of each class session. More than three unexcused absences will result in an automatic reduction in your participation grade, for instance from A- to B+. Your active participation in the class is expected and constitutes part of your grade.

Course Assignment and Assessment:

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| 5 In-class Quizzes | 15% |
| Daily Reading Response | 25% |



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| 3 Formal Essays | 30% |
| Community Service and Report | 10% |
| Term Paper | 20% |
| Total | 100% |

Grading Scale (percentage):

| A+ | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | D+ | D | D- | F |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 98- | 93- | 90- | 88- | 83- | 80- | 78- | 73- | 70- | 68- | 63- | 60- | <60 |
| 100 | 97 | 92 | 89 | 87 | 82 | 79 | 77 | 72 | 69 | 67 | 62 | |

Academic Integrity:

Students are encouraged to study together, and to discuss lecture topics with one another, but all other work should be completed independently.

Students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty and integrity that are described in the Chengdu University of Technology's *Academic Conduct Code*. Any work suspected of violating the standards of the *Academic Conduct Code* will be reported to the Dean's Office. Penalties for violating the *Academic Conduct Code* may include dismissal from the program. All students have an individual responsibility to know and understand the provisions of the *Academic Conduct Code*.

Special Needs or Assistance:

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.

Course Reading Schedule (Tentative):**Introduction**Class 1-2

Plato: Selections from the Apology & the Republic

Aristotle: Selections from the Politics

History of Frayed RelationshipsClass 3-6

Liberalism: A Counter History – D.Losurdo



Class Struggle: A Political and Philosophy History. – D.Losurdo.

The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere: An Inquiry into a Category of Bourgeois Society. – J. Habermas.

A Brief History of Neoliberalism. -- D. Harvey.

The Violent Mind

Class 7- 12

The Reactionary Mind. – Corey Robin.

The Sublime Object of Ideology. – S. Zizek.

Violence: Six Sideways Reflections. – S.Zizek.

Non-Violence: A History Beyond the Myth. – D. Losurdo

Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison. – M. Foucault.

Madness and Civilization: A History of Insanity and in the Age of Reason. –M.Foucault.

The Proclamation of the End

Class 13- 18

The Authoritarian Personality.-- T. Adorno.

Modernity and the Holocaust. --Z. Bauman.

Liquid Times: Living in a Age of Uncertainty. --Z. Bauman.

Marx, Capital and the Madness of Economic Reason.—D. Harvey.

The Burnout Society. – B. Chul-han.

Capitalism and the Death Drive. – B. Chul-Han.

Psychopolitics: Neoliberalism and New Technologies of Power. – B. Chul-Han.

Beyond the End

Class 19- 25

The Authoritarian Personality.-- T. Adorno.

Capitalist Realism: Is There no Alternative? – M. Fisher.



Buying Time: The Delayed Crises of Democratic Capitalism. – W. Streeck.

How wil Capitalism End? – W. Streeck

Affluence and Freedom: An Environmental History of Political Ideas. – P. Charbonnier.