

Phil 144: Early Modern Political Philosophy
Spring, 2022

Tuesday and Thursday, 5:20pm–6:55pm, Soc Sci 2 071

Contact Information

Professor: Abe Stone (abestone@ucsc.edu)

Push notification: Notify Abe (<http://notifyabe1.appspot.com>)

Website: <https://people.ucsc.edu/~abestone/courses>

Zoom link for lectures: <https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/95075022980?pwd=NmZ4ek5aem5wRW5VODUwQkFW>

Zoom office hours: Mon. 1pm–2pm; Tues. noon–1pm (or by appointment)


Teaching Assistant:

Dexter Martin (dmart141@ucsc.edu)

Course Description

“Political philosophy” is, roughly speaking, the use of reason to determine how human beings should live together in society (at least, this is one influential way of understanding the phrase). We will read some of the central 17th and 18th century Western texts on political philosophy.

Modality: The plan (subject to change due to various possible developments, as we all know by now!) is that I will lecture in person in our assigned classroom. But I intend also to live-stream every lecture over Zoom. (The special make-up lecture on Monday, April 25th will be via Zoom only.) I will also make a recording of every lecture available on YouTube. Office hours will be via Zoom only to begin with, but later in the quarter there may be at least one in-person office hour.

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Course Requirements

Participation in discussion sections (good participation will be possible grounds for raising course grade, especially if it is on a borderline).

Two short papers (2–3 pages), due Wednesday, April 27 and Wednesday, May 11 (each worth 25% of the final grade).

One longer paper (6–8 pages) (worth 50% of the final grade), due Tuesday, June 7.

The paper assignments are already available on-line, and are links to them from this syllabus (see above, also in the Readings section on the appropriate date) as well as from my main course page and on the Canvas site. I will discuss the assignments in class when the due date draws near. You can find answers to some commonly asked questions about my assignments and grading in my FAQ (<https://people.ucsc.edu/~abestone/courses/faq.html>).

Papers are to be handed in, as attachments, via the “Assignments” tool on Canvas. Please submit in MSWord format or in a format easily convertible to MSWord. The system will accept late submissions, but late papers may not receive full credit. The system is *not* set up to allow resubmissions: once you press the “submit” button, it will not let you change your response. If, however, you mistakenly submit something and want to change it, please contact me and I can make an exception.

All assignments are due by 11:55pm on the due date.

Please do not plagiarize. If you do and I catch you, you will receive no credit for the assignment and may fail the course, and you will also be subject to “disciplinary sanctions” from the University. (In contrast: if you hand in a paper consisting mostly of quotes from or paraphrases of other sources you have consulted, properly cited, then, although your paper won’t be very good, it will not be a fail.) If you have any questions about what plagiarism is or how to avoid it, you can ask me, or consult the resources listed on the Library website.¹ For possible consequences of plagiarism, see the Academic

¹<https://guides.library.ucsc.edu/citesources/plagiarism>.

Misconduct Policy.²

Attendance at lectures is not required, but I highly advise you to attend if possible, or, if not, then at least to watch the YouTube video. Links to the recorded lectures will appear on this syllabus as they are put up.

Texts

Hobbes, *Leviathan* (Hackett, 1994) (ISBN: 0872201775).

Older editions are available on Google Books and Wikisource, among other places, and there is a LibriVox recording in two parts: books I and II and books III and IV.

Locke, *Second Treatise of Government* (Hackett, 1980) (ISBN: 978-0915144860).

Older editions of the *Two Treatises of Government* are available on Google Books (the *Second Treatise* begins on p. 187) and LibriVox (the *Second Treatise* begins with section 15); the *Second Treatise* is also available on Wikisource.

Rousseau, *Basic Political Writings* (Hackett, 2012) (ISBN: 1603846735).

The *Discourse on Inequality* is available (in different translations) on Google Books and Wikisource and there is also a LibriVox recording. Likewise for the *Social Contract*: Google,Books; Wikisource; LibriVox.

Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (Dover Thrift, 1996) (ISBN: 978-0486290362).

Older editions of the *Vindication of the Rights of Woman* are available on Google Books and Wikisource and there is also a LibriVox recording.

The above texts can be ordered and/or purchased as e-books from the Bay Tree Bookstore, and are also on reserve at McHenry (and, in the case of the Rousseau and Wollstonecraft books, also available online through course reserves). A few additional readings from other works by Locke will be available online (either via public link or on Canvas).

Readings

Tuesday, March 29: (no reading, first class). (Lecture on YouTube.)

²https://www.ue.ucsc.edu/academic_misconduct.

Hobbes

Thursday, March 31: Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Introduction (all); ch. I (all); ch. II, §1³; ch. III, §12; ch. IV, §§12–13; ch. V (all); ch. VI, §§1–7, 49–59; ch. VII (all); ch. VIII, §§1–2, 13–16; ch.'s. X–XI (all) (pp. 3–8, 15, 19, 22–9, 33–8, 40–41, 50–63). (Note: we will read ch. XII, about the origins of religion, later on.) (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, April 5: Hobbes, *Leviathan*, ch.'s XIII–XV (all) (pp. 74–100). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, April 7: Hobbes, *Leviathan*, ch.'s XVI–XIX (all) (pp. 101–127). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, April 12: Hobbes, *Leviathan*, ch. XX, §§1–10, 18–19; ch. XXI (all); ch. XXII, §§1–10, 16, 26; ch. XXIII, §§1–8; ch. XXIV, §§1–10; ch. XXV (all) (pp. 127–131, 135–48, 149–50, 152–3, 155–7, 159–63, 165–72). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, April 14: Hobbes, *Leviathan*, ch. XXVI, §§1–26, 40–41; ch. XXVIII, §§1–2, ch. XXIX, §§1–17; ch. XXX, §§1–5; ch. XXXI (all) (pp. 172–83, 186–9, 203–4, 210–17, 219–21, 233–44). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, April 19: Hobbes, *Leviathan*, ch. XII (all); ch. XXXII (all); ch. XLII, §§5–14, 36–8; ch. XLVI, §§1–18; Conclusion, §§15–17 (pp. 63–74, 245–50, 336–41, 351–2, 453–60, 495–7). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, April 21: **No class** due the seventh day of Passover.

Locke

³The symbol § stands for “section” (§§ means “sections”). I use it here to refer to the paragraph numbers, in brackets in Hackett edition. If you are unsure (or a bit rusty) on how to read Roman numerals, used for the chapter numbers here, there is a handy guide on Wolfram MathWorld.

Monday, April 25: Locke, *Second Treatise*, ch.'s 1–4 (all) (pp. 7–18); selection from *Essay concerning Human Understanding* (on the law of reason/law of nature/divine law, vs. other laws); selections from *Fundamental Constitutions of Carolina* and *Essay concerning Human Understanding* (on slavery, race, the definition of humanity, and related issues). **Note:** this special make-up lecture will be at the regular class time, but via Zoom only. (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, April 26: Locke, *Second Treatise*, ch. 5–6, (all) (pp. 18–42). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Wednesday, April 27: **First short paper due.**

Thursday, April 28: Locke, *Second Treatise*, ch. 7 (all), ch. 8, §§95–9, 119–22 and ch. 9 (all) (pp. 42–53, 63–8). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, May 3: Locke, *Second Treatise*, ch.'s 10–12 and 16–18 (all); ch. 19, §§211–30, 240–43 (pp. 68–77, 91–116, 123–4).

Rousseau

Thursday, May 5: Rousseau, *Discourse on Inequality*, Part I (pp. 44–69). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, May 10: Rousseau, *Discourse on Inequality*, Part II (pp. 69–92). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Wednesday, May 11: **Second short paper due.**

Thursday, May 12: Rousseau, *Social Contract*, Book I (all); Book II, ch.'s 1–5 (pp. 155–178). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, May 17: Rousseau, *Social Contract*, Book II, ch.'s 6–12; Book III, ch.'s 1–7 (pp. 178–206). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, May 19: Rousseau, *Social Contract*, Book III, ch.'s 8–18; Book IV, ch.'s 1–3, 8–9 (pp. 207–230, 243–52). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Wollstonecraft

Tuesday, May 24: Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, ch. 1 (all) (pp. 11–17). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, May 26: Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, ch. 5 section on Rousseau, and ch.'s 6–8 (pp. 79–94 and 118–144). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, May 31: Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, ch.'s 9–11 (pp. 145–57). (Lecture on YouTube (sorry, incomplete).)

Thursday, June 2: Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, ch. 13 (pp. 185–201). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, June 7: **Final paper due.**