Teaching and assessment

Your teaching on this module will consist of a weekly one-hour lecture and a weekly one-hour seminar. You will write two 1000 word formative essays (due at the end of each mini-term), which MUST be completed to pass the module. These will provide a basis for the summative essays which will determine your mark in the module.

Weeks 1-5: Ancient and medieval political philosophy

General reading on ancient and medieval political philosophy:

• Articles on the online Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy e.g. “Medieval Political Philosophy,” “Ancient Political Philosophy,” “Aristotle’s Political Theory” etc.
• You might find Prof Adamson’s podcast helpful, especially episodes 25 (Plato’s political philosophy) and 48 (Aristotle’s political philosophy). See www.historyofphilosophy.net

Oct. 6: The birth and shape of the state in Plato
Seminar text: Republic, book 4

Oct. 13: Plato’s political philosophy, part 2
Seminar text: Republic, book 8
• See previous lecture’s recommendations for reading on the Republic.

Oct. 20: Aristotle’s political philosophy
Seminar text: Aristotle, Politics book 3 ch.6 to book 4 ch.11.

Oct 27: Islamic medieval political philosophy
Seminar text: al-Farabi, Book of Religion.
• P. Crone, “Al-Farabi’s Imperfect Constitutions,” in Mélanges de l’Université Saint-Joseph 62 (2004), 191-228. [This and the next item are available in the xerox library in the Philosophy Dept.]

Nov 3: Christian medieval political philosophy
Seminar text: Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologiae I-II, Q. 90-95.
• E. Stump, Aquinas (London: 2003), ch.10.
**Weeks 6-10: Modern political philosophy**

**Weeks 6-8: Hobbes’s Political Philosophy**

**Primary Literature**

**Required reading**


**Further reading**

Remainder of *Leviathan*


**Secondary Literature**

**Required reading**


**Further reading**

- also ‘David Hume, contractarian’ in David Gauthier *Moral Dealing*, Cornell 1990

My paper available online at

http://kcl.academia.edu/ThomasPink/Papers

**Weeks 9-10: Kant's Political Philosophy**

**Dec 8th:** Kant I: Introduction to Kant's Political Philosophy
Seminar Text: Kant, The Metaphysics of Morals, The Doctrine of Right, 6:221-257

**Dec 15th:** Kant II The Possibility of Perpetual Peace
Seminar Text: Kant, Toward Perpetual Peace

**Primary Readings:**

Practical Philosophy (ed. and trans. Mary Gregor) Cambridge University Press, 1999
Toward Perpetual Peace and Other Writings on Politics, Peace, and History (Rethinking the Western Tradition), ed. Pauline Kleingeld, Yale University Press, 2006
Secondary Readings:

Arendt, Hannah, 1982. Lectures on Kant's Political Philosophy. Chicago: Chicago UP.