SUNY, Albany
Department of Political Science

Spring, 2013

Political Science 302
HISTORY OF POLITICAL THEORY II
Peter Breiner

Required Reading
Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan (Penguin)
John Locke, Second Treatise of Government, (Hackett)
Jean Jacques Rousseau, Basic Political Writings (Hackett)
Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America (Harper and Row)
John Stuart Mill, On Liberty and Other Essays (Oxford)
Max Weber, The Vocation Lectures (Hackett)
Hannah Arendt, On Revolution (Penguin)

Course Outline: (dates for each section are approximate.)

I. Hobbes: A Scientific Foundation for Politics. (Jan 29-Feb. 12)

Hobbes, Leviathan
(1/29) Epistle Dedicatory (pp. 75-84), chs. 1-7
(1/31) chs. 10-11
(2/5) chs. 13-17
(2/7) chs 18-22
(2/12) chs 24, 29, 30, Conclusion.

II. John Locke: property, consent, and the origins of liberalism (Feb. 15-21)

Locke, Second Treatise of Government (entire): chs 1-6, 7-12, 13-19
Recommended:
Peter Laslett, "Introduction" to the Two Treatises (Cambridge edition).
C. B. Macpherson, The Political Theory of Possessive Individualism, Ch.1, 5.*
John Dunn, The Political Thought of John Locke
Richard Ashcraft, The Two Treatises of John Locke

Essay on Hobbes due in contact office by 3 pm Wednesday, February 20 in Hu B16.

III. Jean Jacques Rousseau: Inequality, and the Recovery of Democratic Citizenship (Feb 26-March 12)-Mar. 8)

A. (2/26-2/28) Discourse on the Origins of Inequality (entire)
Both in Basic Political Writings
Recommended:
Discourse on the Arts and Sciences

Essay on Locke and Rousseau due in contact office by 3 pm Wednesday, March 13 in Hu B16.

IV. Alexis de Tocqueville: Revolution, Democracy, and Equality (Mar. 26-April 2)

V. John Stuart Mill: The Reconstitution of Liberalism (April 9)

On Liberty (entire)
Recommended:
Considerations on Representative Government, chs. 1-4, 6-8.
Subjection of Women
C. B. MacPherson, The Life and Times of Liberal Democracy

VI. Karl Marx: Capitalism, Socialism, and Labor (April 11-April 25)

A. The critique of alienation (4/11)
Marx Engels Reader,
pp. 40-46 (selection from "The Jewish Question")
pp. 66-109 ("The Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts")
Recommended:
pp. 143-146 ("Theses on Feuerbach")
pp. 292-293 (selection from the Grundrisse)

B. the logic of capitalism and the logic of exploitation (4/16-4/18)
Marx Engels Reader,

C. Class conflict and the materialist concept of history: reform or revolution (4/23)
Marx Engels Reader,
pp. 3-6 ("Introduction’ to A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy")
pp. 469-500 ("The Communist Manifesto")
Recommended:
pp. 218-219 ("The Poverty of Philosophy")
pp. 501-512 ("Address to the Communist League")

D. The criticism of the state and the problem of discovering forms of socialism (4/25)
pp. 629-642, 651-652 ("The Civil War in France")
Recommended:
pp. 81-92 ("Private Property and Communism")
pp. 525-541 ("Critique of the Gotha Program")
pp. 594-617 ("The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte")
VII. Bureaucracy and The Responsibilities of the Professional Politician (April 30)

Max Weber, “Politics as a Vocation” Recommended: “Science as a Vocation” in The Vocation Lectures

VIII. Revolution vs Social Necessity—constituting political liberty (May 2-May 7)

Hannah Arendt, On Revolution
(1/2) chs. 1-2)
(1/7) chs 4, pp. 124-154, ch. 6 entire** (**should be read with extra care).

Final—probably a take-home.

Course Requirements

Attendance: Attendance at lectures is mandatory. There is a great deal of difficult reading in this course and the course will be moving rather quickly, so your full engagement is required. I will take attendance on a regular basis.

Written Assignments: There will be two essay of approximately 6-7 pages: one on Hobbes Locke due on February 20; and one on Locke and Rousseau, due on March 13—these dates may be slightly modified should we not be finished with the respective thinkers on time. The format of the final exam is yet to be determined, but it probably will be a take-home final. It will include questions on de Tocqueville, Mill, Marx, Weber and Arendt. For each of the essays I will expect writing that is clear, coherent, and grammatically correct. You will be graded down for poor or careless writing.

Grading: The two essays will count 25% apiece. The final since it covers a great deal will count 40%. The remaining 10% will consist of class participation (in general this last 10% should count in your favor not against you).

Cheating and Plagiarism: Should I find that you have cheated on an exam or plagiarized a piece of written work, you will immediately fail the course and your case will be handed on to a university committee.

Reading Assignments: You will be expected to read the assigned texts closely and critically and come prepared to discuss them.

Office Hours and Contact Information:
Tu Th, 11:40-12:40, in Hu 0B16 and Downtown Wednesdays 1-3 in Milne 204, Phone: 2-5277. I also will be able to meet with you before class by appointment.
E-mail: pbreiner@albany.edu You are always welcome to e-mail me with questions about the reading. I try to give extremely thorough answers.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED READING

Hobbes
Baumgold, D., 1988, Hobbes's Political Thought

Locke and the Liberal Tradition
P. Laslett, "Introduction" to Locke's Two Treatises of Government
M. Cranston, John Locke
J. Yolton, John Locke and the Way of Ideas
L. Strauss, Natural Right and History, ch 5.
W. Kendall, John Locke and the Doctrine of Majority Rule
J. Dunn, “Consent in the Political Theory of John Locke” in Political Obligation in its Historical Context
J. Dunn, “Trust in the Political Theory of John Locke” in Rethinking Modern Political Theory
J. Dunn, The Political Thought of John Locke
R. Ashcraft, Revolutionary Politics and John Locke’s Two Treatises of Government
R. Ashcraft, The Two Treatises of John Locke
J. W. Gough, John Locke's Political Philosophy

Rousseau
Ernst Cassirer, The Question of J. J. Rousseau
Andrew Levine, The Politics of Autonomy
J. Shklar, Men and Citizens
R. Masters, The Political Philosophy of Rousseau
E. Durkheim, Montesquieu and Rousseau
L. Crocker, Rousseau's Social Contract an Interpretive Essay
L. Althusser, Politics and History
B. Barry, "The Public Interest" in Political Philosophy, ed. by A. Quinton
A. Cobban, Rousseau and the Modern State
L. Colletti, From Rousseau to Lenin
Stephen Ellenburg, Rousseau's Political Philosophy
James Miller, Rousseau, Dreamer of Democracy
Jean Starobinski, Transparency and Obstruction
Keith Ansell-Pearson, Nietzsche Contra Rousseau

Alexis de Tocqueville
A. de Tocqueville, The Ancien Regime
Selected Letters
R. Boesche, The Strange Liberalism Alexis de Tocqueville
R. Aron, Main Currents in Sociological Thought, Vo. 1.
J. Lively, The Social and Political Thought of Alexis de Tocqueville
J. P. Mayer, Alexis de Tocqueville
J. Schleifer, The Making of de Tocqueville’s Democracy in America
I. Zeitlin, Liberty, Equality, and Revolution in Alexis de Tocqueville
M. Zetterbaum, Tocqueville and the Problem of Democracy
R. Herr, De Tocqueville and the Old Regime
E. J. Hobsbawm, The Age of Revolution,
Sheldon Wolin, Alexis de Tocqueville Between Two Worlds

**John Stuart Mill and Modern Liberalism**
G. Duncan, Marx and Mill
J. H. Burns, J. S. Mill and Democracy," Political Studies, (June, 1957)
M. Cowling, Mill and Liberalism
J. Hamburger, Intellectuals in Politics
A. Ryan, The Philosophy of J. S. Mill
N. Urbanati, Mill on Democracy: from the Athenian Polis to Representative Government
C. B. Macpherson, The Real World of Liberalism
A. Arblaster, The Rise and Decline of Western Liberalism
G. de Regguiero, the History European Liberalism
J. Robson, The Improvement of Mankind
J. B. Schneewind, ed., Mill
J. Bentham, Principle of Legislation
E. Halevy, The Rise of Philosophical Radicalism
H. Laski, The Rise of Liberalism

**Karl Marx and Socialism**
Shlomo Avineri, The Social and Political Thought of Karl Marx
Ralph Miliband. Marxism and Politics
J. Maguire, Marx's Theory of Politics
Stanley Moore, Three Tactics
Hal Draper, Marx's Theory of Revolution, vol. I, II.
G. A. Cohen, Karl Marx's Theory of History
William Shaw, Marx's Theory of History
Alan Wood, Karl Marx
Richard Miller, Analyzing Marx
Jon Elster, Making Sense of Marx
John Roemer, Free to Lose
Bertell Ollman, Alienation
Istvan Mezasos, Marx's Theory of Alienation
Kostas Axemos, Alienation, Praxis, and Techné in the Thought of Karl Marx
Georg Lukacs, History and Class Consciousness
Karl Korsch, Marxism and Philosophy
Alfred Schmidt, Marx’s Concept of Nature
Norman Geras, Marx and Human Nature
Steven Lukes, Marxism and Morality
David McLellan Karl Marx
G. A. Cohen, History Labour and Freedom
G. A. Cohen, Self-Ownership, Freedom and Equality
Allen Buchanan, Marx and Justice
R. P. Wolff, Understanding Marx
Duncan Foley, Understanding Capital
E. Mandel, The Formation of the Economic Thought of Karl Marx
Henri Lefebvre, The Sociology of Marx
A. Rosenberg, Democracy and Socialism
Max Weber
Max Weber, Economy and Society
David Beetham, Max Weber and the Theory of Modern Politics
Peter Breiner, Max Weber and Democratic Politics
Karl Löwith, Karl Marx and Max Weber
Wolfgang Mommsen, The Age of Bureaucracy
Wolfgang Mommsen, Max Weber and German Politics
Lawrence Scaff, Fleeing the Iron Cage
Wilhelm Hennis, Max Weber: Essays in Reconstruction
Anthony Giddens, Capitalism and Modern Social Theory
Anthony Giddens, Politics and Sociology in the Thought of Max Weber
Reinhard Bendix, Max Weber: An Intellectual Portrait
Dirk, Kaesler, Max Weber: An Introduction to his Life and Work
Maurice Merleau-Ponty, "The Crises of Understanding" in Adventures of the Dialectic
W.G. Runciman, A Critique of Max Weber's Philosophy of Science
W.G. Runciman, Social Science and Political Theory
Herbert Marcuse, "Industrialization and Capitalism in the Work of Max Weber" in Negations

Elitism, Bureaucracy, Socialist Politics, Anarchism, Syndicalism
Elitism:
James H. Meisel, The Myth of the Ruling Class
Gaetano Mosca, The Ruling Class
Vilfredo Pareto, Mind and Society
Joseph Schumpeter, Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy
Peter Bachrach, The Theory of Democratic Elitism
T. B. Bottomore, Elites and Society
Lucio Colletti, "Lenin's State and Revolution," in From Rousseau to Lenin
Neil Harding, Lenin's Political Thought
A. J. Polan, Lenin and the End of Politics
Leon Trotsky, History of the Russian Revolution
Mosche Lewin, Lenin's Last Struggle
M. Liebman, Leninism Under Lenin
Arthur Rosenberg, A History of Bolshevism
L. Basso, Rosa Luxemburg's Dialectical Method
Norman Geras, The Legacy of Rosa Luxemburg
J. P. Nettl, Rosa Luxemburg
Paul Frölich, Rosa Luxemburg
George Sorel, Reflections on Violence
George Woodcock, Anarchism
Irving Louis Horowitz, The Anarchists

Hannah Arendt
Hannah Arendt, The Human Condition
Hannah Arendt, Between Past and Future
Hannah Arendt, Eichman in Jerusalem