

HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
***Philosophy 2800G: History of Political Philosophy* – J. Epp**
Course Outline, Fall 2021

Tues. 10:30-11:30,
Thurs. 9:30-11:30
Location: HC-H221 (new building)

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Epp
Office: A304
Office hours: Thurs. 1:00-2:00 pm on Zoom
or by appt.
Email: jepp6@uwo.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Humans are social beings who live together in society. We must arrange and govern those societies in some way. This course examines a history of attempts to answer conceptual and theoretical questions about how best to do so and to engage with each other as political animals. Questions include: What is the nature of political community, including the Polis? Who, if anyone, ought to rule and on what basis? How are ethics and politics related? Is it ever permissible to overthrow a ruler or government or to disobey the law? How should we understand sovereignty, statehood, citizenship, justice, freedom, equality, property and rights? How do various forms of government differ and which form of government should we prefer?

Students will read primary texts by major figures in the history of Western political philosophy, in conversation with writing by Non-Western and contemporary thinkers.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- 1) To develop student's abilities to identify, understand, construct and critique philosophical arguments. To meet this objective, students will enhance their oral and written communication skills, active listening skills, analytical ability and potential for creative problem solving via written assignments, collaborative exercises in interpretation and class discussion.
- 2) To familiarize students with major debates in the history of western political thought, and to understand the complexity of these debates. To meet this objective students will read relevant literature and engage in conceptual analysis and respectful debate within class.
- 3) To provide students with resources that may help them to think critically about their own position in systems of government. To meet this objective, students will enhance their ability to formulate questions in relation to course material and will have the opportunity to reflect on their own individual and collective political lives.

OFFICE HOURS

Thursdays 1:00-2:00 pm EST by Zoom. **Meeting ID: 977 1420 5534** and **Passcode: 568844**. See full invitation below. Or by appointment. Do not hesitate to contact me at jepp6@uwo.ca to arrange a meeting.

CLASS METHODS

This course consists of three hours of class per week **in-person, unless otherwise announced**. We may sometimes move outside after beginning indoors. **Check the Announcements section on OWL and your Huron email regularly**. The class will include lecture time, as well as time for group exercises and class discussion. Participation is highly encouraged and students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings.

MASKS

Must be properly worn in class at all times. Those not properly wearing masks will be asked to leave. **Please do not eat or drink in class.** We will take a **short break on Thursdays** for that purpose. Social distance in class when possible.

TEXTS

- *Social and Political Philosophy: classic texts in feminist and multicultural perspectives* Edited by James Sterba (Bookstore. Early readings are in the Resources section of OWL.)
- Excerpts, *Sovereignty as Responsibility* by Francis Deng (Resources section of OWL.)
- *Why Sit Ye Here and Die* by Maria Stewart, <http://www.blackpast.org/1832-maria-w-stewart-why-sit-ye-here-and-die0>

REQUIRMENTS:

Class Participation	15%
Essay, due Oct. 30	25%
Small Group Assignment: Part 1 (Problem) due Oct. 2	5%
Part 2 (Collaborative solution) due Nov. 27	25%
Take Home Exam	30%

ASSIGNMENTS:

Submit all assignments, including essays and reflections, to the **Assignments section of OWL**. If you have trouble submitting through OWL e-mail your assignment to jepp6@uwo.ca to prevent a late penalty. No paper copy is needed. Further details and evaluation criteria for all assignments will be provided in the Assignments sec OWL.

ANONYMOUS GRADING:

To avoid bias I grade your written work and exam **anonymously**.

- Use **student numbers, not names**, on assignments and the exam.
- **Save documents** using your **student number, assignment name, and topic**. E.g. "250111111, Essay 1, Hobbes"

OWL: **check the Announcements section of OWL regularly.**

PLAIGIARISM:

Work submitted to the Assignments section in OWL is automatically sent to Turnitin.com (a plagiarism checking service). Papers are not graded until they are submitted and checked there.

You may not submit assignments, or portions of assignments, that have been prepared for other courses. All instances of suspected plagiarism will be taken very seriously. **Cite all direct quotes, use quotation marks, cite all ideas that you got from somewhere else even if you are not using quotes, and include a bibliography or footnotes of all external resources that you use in anything submitted for this class.**

ACCESSIBILITY:

Your success is important to me and there are many ways to learn. Feel free to discuss your learning needs with me during office hours or by e-mail. Together we will find ways to make the class accessible and productive for you.

Life can get in the way of school sometimes. If you run into difficulties and need assistance, please talk to me by email or during office hours (which will be private). I will do my best to support your success during the term. In addition to disability or wellness, I accommodate for employment and family responsibilities. For accommodations on assignments worth more than 10% please also (or instead if you prefer), speak with an academic counsellor. See Academic Advising at Huron: <https://huronatwestern.ca/academic-advising>.

If I have concerns about your academic performance or wellbeing, I may identify them through Early Alert. With Early Alert (HEART), faculty members can connect you with advisors and wellness staff who offer students support and assistance in getting back on track. Only members of HEART can access concerns and Early Alert does not affect your academic record.

For information about addressing mental or physical health concerns, including seeing a Huron Wellness counsellor, please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/wellness-services>.

I encourage students with disabilities to use the Services for Students with Disabilities provided by the Student Development Centre at Western including the provision of note-takers, learning strategies assistance, assignment and exam accommodations, and sign-language interpreters. The Accessibility Services Office is located on the 4th floor of the Student Services Building, room 4111. See <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/> for more information or call (519) 661-2147.

LATE POLICY:

The late penalty is 2% per day, including weekends. I cannot accept papers after the last day of class without accommodation from an academic counselor. See your academic counselor promptly for accommodation of work worth more than 10%.

Reading List

	Topic	Article	Author
Sept. 9	Ancient Political Thought ~ Politics and Virtue	<i>The Republic</i> (selections)	Plato
Sept. 14 & 16	Ancient Political Thought ~ Politics and Virtue	Republic continued “The Function of Equal Education in Plato’s Republic”	Plato Lange
Sept. 21 & 23	Ancient Political Thought ~ Politics and Virtue	<i>The Politics</i> <i>Discourses</i> (selections) Recommended: “Ewe Proverbs”	Aristotle Rufus Dzobo
Sept. 28 & 30 Group Asgt. Part 1 due Oct. 2	17th Century Thought ~ Sovereignty and the Social Contact	<i>Leviathan</i> (selections) “The Devastation of the Indies”	Hobbes Las Casas
Oct. 5 & 7	17th Century Thought ~ Sovereignty and the Social Contact	“Hobbes, Patriarchy, and Conjugal Right” Recommended: “Sovereignty as Responsibility”	Pateman Deng (OWL)
Oct. 12 & 14	17th Century Thought ~ Natural Laws and the Social Contact	<i>Two Treatises on Government</i> (selections)	Locke
		<i>On the Social Contract</i> (selections)	Rousseau

Oct. 19 & 21	18 th Century Thought ~ Nature and Freedom		
Oct. 26 & 28 Essay due Oct. 30	18 th Century Thought ~ Nature, Education, and Virtue	<i>Emile</i> (selections) <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Woman</i> (selections)	Rousseau Wollstonecraft
Nov. 2 & 4	Reading Week
Nov. 9 & 11	Speaking back to the 17 th and 18 th Century ~ Bodies, Relationality, and the State	Class Choice, one of: “The Attempted Dispossession of Kwe” “Spinoza, Law and Responsibility”	Leanne Simpson Moira Gatens
Nov. 16 & 18	Speaking back to the 17 th and 18 th Century ~ Colonialism and Resistance	“Perversions of Justice”	Ward Churchill
Nov. 23 & 25 Group Asgt Part 2 due Nov. 27	18 th Century Thought ~ Social Contracts, Economics, and Citizenship	<i>Theory and Practice</i> (selections) <i>The Metaphysics of Morals</i> (selections) Recommended: “Kant: ‘An Honest but Narrow-Minded Bourgeois?’”	Kant Kant Mendus
Nov. 30	18 th Century Thought ~	POLITICAL THEORY - Karl Marx “Why Sit We Here and Die”	The School of Life

	Social Contracts, Economics, Nationhood, and Citizenship	https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/1832-maria-w-stewart-why-sit-ve-here-and-die/ Indigenous Economic Reconciliation	Maria Stewart UVic (University of Victoria)
Dec. 2 & 7	Problems and Solutions	Discussion of Small Group Assignments	You lead discussion of your projects
Dec. 10-21	Exam Period		

OFFICE HOURS

Jennifer Epp is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Office Hours

Time: Sep 9, 2021 13:00 Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Thursday from Sept 9 until Dec 9, 2021, 14 occurrence(s)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly:

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/meeting/tJMqdu2qrj4vGdA8S6bBRl0npXyrjChpRzfx/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCvqTouGNSQtRqDRowEB4j4LorziCVYjad8xCyzAQJhblP4JtpbILhcGMji>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/97714205534>

Meeting ID: 977 1420 5534

Passcode: 568844

One tap mobile

+16475580588,,97714205534#,,, *568844# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

Meeting ID: 977 1420 5534

Passcode: 568844

Find your local number: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/u/abGCSEh2QF>

Join by SIP

97714205534@zoomcrc.com

Join by H.323

162.255.37.11 (US West)

162.255.36.11 (US East)

69.174.57.160 (Canada Toronto)

65.39.152.160 (Canada Vancouver)

Meeting ID: 977 1420 5534

Passcode: 568844



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Pandemic Contingency

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has

already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website,

<https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official

Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here:

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicssupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance.

Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit

<https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through,

<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.