

Ohio State University
Political Science 670
Ancient & Medieval Political Thought
11:30-1:18 MW Fall 2006
Eric MacGilvray

Office hours: W 3:30-4:30 or by appt.
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Overview

In this course we will focus on several foundational texts in the history of western political thought, six of which come to us from ancient Athens, and three from the Christian middle ages. Although these texts come to us from times and places that are as different from each other as they are from ours, they also deal with a common set of themes, including the nature of political wisdom, the relationship between politics and religion, and the role that virtue, piety and justice have to play in public life.

Readings

The following books are required and should be available for purchase at the OSU Bookstore, SBX, UBX, Buckeye Books, and College Town:

Thomas Aquinas, *Treatise on Law* (Hackett)

Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince* (Chicago)

Plato, *Republic* (Hackett)

C. D. C. Reeve, ed., *The Trials of Socrates* (Hackett)

These books have also been placed on 2-hour reserve at Sullivant Library.

In addition, a number of required readings have been placed on e-reserve through Carmen.

Requirements

- (1) Two papers on assigned topics, 5-6 pages each (c. 1,500-1,800 words):
 - 1st paper due at noon on Friday, October 27 [33%]
 - 2nd paper due at noon on Friday, November 17 [33%]
- (2) In-class final examination: Monday, December 4, 11:30-1:18 [33%]
- (3) Class attendance and active participation

Policies and procedures

Academic honesty: It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct: http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp

Note: OSU now has a license to the Turnitin.com plagiarism prevention software, which scans student papers to determine if they contain undocumented source material. Student will be asked to submit their papers electronically to Turnitin.com, and the papers will then be forwarded to me along with an “originality report” flagging suspect passages, if any. I will give details on the procedures for submitting papers when I distribute the first assignment. More information about Turnitin.com is available at <http://turnitin.com/static/index.html>

Late work: Each student will be granted ONE extension this term on a paper of your choice, no questions asked, which entitles you to hand it in any time before class on Monday following the due date with no penalty. There is no need to tell me in advance that you are taking the extension, and no other extensions will be granted. Late essays will be penalized one full grade. Essays will not be accepted more than one week after the extension date without my approval.

Disabilities: If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, you should contact me as soon as possible to arrange an appointment where we can discuss the course format, anticipate your needs, and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, I encourage you to do so. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307; TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu>

Schedule

September 20	Introductory	
September 25	Aristophanes, <i>Clouds</i> (<i>Trials of Socrates</i> , pp. 89-176)	
September 27	Plato, <i>Apology of Socrates</i> , <i>Crito</i> , <i>Phaedo</i> death scene (<i>Trials of Socrates</i> , pp. 26-83)	
October 2	Yom Kippur (no class)	
October 4	Plato, <i>Republic</i> , book 1, entire (Grube pp. 1-31)	
October 9	Plato, <i>Republic</i> , book 2, 357a-376c book 3, 414b-417b book 4, 419a-421c; 427d-445e (Grube pp. 32-51, 90-96, 102-121)	
October 11	Plato, <i>Republic</i> , book 5, entire book 6, 487b-497d (Grube pp. 122-156, 161-171)	
October 16	Plato, <i>Republic</i> , book 6, 504d-511e book 7, 514a-521c; 531d-534c; 540d-541b book 8, 543a-562a (Grube pp. 178-193, 203-206, 212-232)	
October 18	Plato, <i>Republic</i> , book 8, 562b-569c book 9, entire book 10, 608b-621d (Grube pp. 232-263, 279-292)	
October 23	Aristotle, <i>Politics</i> , book 1, chaps. 1-7 book 3, chaps. 1, 4-5	[e-reserve]
October 25	Aristotle, <i>Politics</i> , book 3, chaps. 7-13, 18	[e-reserve]
October 27 (Friday)	FIRST PAPER DUE, 12:00 pm	
October 30	Aristotle, <i>Politics</i> , book 4, chaps. 1-2, 8-9, 11 book 5, chaps. 1, 8-9	[e-reserve]
November 1	Aristotle, <i>Politics</i> , book 7, chaps. 1-3, 13-15 book 8, chaps. 1-3	[e-reserve]

November 6	<i>Matthew</i> 5:38-48, 22:15-22; <i>Romans</i> 13:1-7; <i>1 Peter</i> 2:13-17 Augustine, <i>Retractions</i> , book 2, chap. 43 Augustine, <i>City of God</i> , book 1, preface, chaps. 1, 8-11, 29, 35 book 2, chaps. 19-21 book 4, chaps. 3-4 book 5, chaps. 17-21, 24	[e-reserve]
November 8	<i>Genesis</i> 1:1-4:17 Augustine, <i>City of God</i> , book 11, chaps. 1, 21-22, 27-28 book 14, chaps. 1-2, 4, 6, 10-15, 27-28 book 15, chaps. 1-2, 4	[e-reserve]
November 13	Augustine, <i>City of God</i> , book 19, chaps. 1, 4-21, 24-28	[e-reserve]
November 15	Aquinas, <i>Treatise on Law</i> , Questions 90-93	
November 17 (Friday)	SECOND PAPER DUE, 12:00 pm	
November 20	Aquinas, <i>Treatise on Law</i> , Questions 94-97	
November 22	Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i> , dedicatory letter, chaps. 1-11	
November 27	Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i> , chaps. 12-26	
November 29	Review	
December 4	FINAL EXAM, 11:30 am - 1:18 pm	