

**Ohio State University  
Political Science 570  
Theories of Freedom  
MW 11:30-1:18 Winter 2012  
Eric MacGilvray**

Office hours: M 1:30-2:30 or by appt.  
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### **Overview**

This course provides a survey of the various ways in which the value of human freedom has been invoked and pursued in political life. Topics of discussion will include the relationship between freedom and democracy, between “political” and “market” freedom, and between freedom and the necessary conditions for its enjoyment. Anarchist, feminist, liberal, libertarian, postmodern, republican and socialist perspectives will be considered.

### **Readings**

The following book is required and should be available for purchase at the OSU Bookstore:

David Miller, ed., *The Liberty Reader* (Paradigm)

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

### **Requirements**

- (1) Two papers on assigned topics, 4-5 pages each (c. 1,200-1,500 words):
  - 1<sup>st</sup> paper due at noon on Friday, February 3 [33%]
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> paper due at noon on Friday, March 2 [33%]
- (2) In-class final examination: Monday, March 12, 11:30-1:18 [33%]
- (3) Class attendance and active participation are expected. Grades will be adjusted up or down by as much as one-third of a grade for exceptionally good or poor participation.

## Policies and procedures

**Academic misconduct:** 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](http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp)

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

**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:** Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. 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

January 4	Plato, <i>Republic</i> , book 8, selection Aristotle, <i>The Politics</i> , selections	[e-reserve] [e-reserve]
January 9	Polybius, <i>The Rise of the Roman Empire</i> , selections Niccolò Machiavelli, <i>Discourses on Livy</i> , selections	[e-reserve] [e-reserve]
January 11	Niccolò Machiavelli, <i>Discourses on Livy</i> , selections Jean-Jacques Rousseau, <i>On the Social Contract</i> , selections Jean-Jacques Rousseau, <i>On the Government of Poland</i> , selections	[e-reserve] [e-reserve] [e-reserve]
January 16	NO CLASS (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)	
January 18	Charles de Montesquieu, <i>The Spirit of the Laws</i> , selections James Madison, <i>The Federalist</i> ## 10 & 51	[e-reserve] [e-reserve]
January 23	David Hume, “Of Civil Liberty” Benjamin Constant, “Ancient and Modern Liberty”	[e-reserve] [e-reserve]
January 25	Alexis de Tocqueville, <i>Democracy in America</i> , selections	[e-reserve]
January 30	Thomas Hobbes, <i>Leviathan</i> , selections John Locke, <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i> , selection John Locke, <i>Second Treatise of Government</i> , selection	[e-reserve] [e-reserve] [e-reserve]
February 1	Milton Friedman, <i>Capitalism and Freedom</i> , selections	[e-reserve]
February 3 (Friday)	FIRST PAPER DUE, 12:00 pm	
February 6	C. B. Macpherson, “Elegant Tombstones” G. A. Cohen, “Freedom, Justice, and Capitalism,” selection G. A. Cohen, “Capitalism, Freedom, and the Proletariat”	[e-reserve] [e-reserve] [Liberty Reader]
February 8	Friedrich Hayek, “Freedom and Coercion”	[Liberty Reader]
February 13	John Stuart Mill, <i>On Liberty</i> , chapter 3 T. H. Green, “Liberal Legislation and Freedom of Contract”	[Liberty Reader]
February 15	Henry David Thoreau, “On the Duty of Civil Disobedience”	[e-reserve]
February 20	Jean-Paul Sartre, “Existentialism”	[e-reserve]
February 22	Hannah Arendt, “Freedom and Politics”	[Liberty Reader]
February 27	Isaiah Berlin, “Two Concepts of Liberty”	[Liberty Reader]

February 29	Charles Taylor, "What's Wrong With Negative Liberty" [Liberty Reader]
March 2 (Friday)	SECOND PAPER DUE, 12:00 pm
March 5	Nancy Hirschmann, "Toward a Feminist Theory of Freedom"[Liberty Reader]
March 7	Review
March 12	FINAL EXAM, 11:30 - 1:18 pm