

# PHIL 144: Social and Political Philosophy

University of California, Santa Cruz

Department of Philosophy

Summer 2016

## INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Lucas Fain  
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## CLASS MEETINGS

TuTh 6:00pm–9:30pm  
Hum & Soc Sci 250

## OFFICE HOURS

Cowell Faculty Annex 107  
By appointment

**Overview:** With the introduction of scientific rationality into the intellectual discourse of the seventeenth-century, the European imagination envisioned new possibilities for an increasingly urban, cosmopolitan civilization. Advancements in the scientific mastery of nature and society offered to improve health, secure individual liberty, and increase material prosperity. Yet the very promises of the Enlightenment produced new fears that the celebrations of modern achievement reflected a naive optimism, behind which lurked more pernicious threats of political oppression, social alienation, and cultural disenchantment. This course will chart the vicissitudes of the modern Enlightenment through a study of foundational texts in the history of European political philosophy and social thought. The aim is to consider how several key thinkers have contributed to an ongoing debate about the nature of modern progress, and our goal is to ask whether the ideals and ambitions of the Enlightenment have produced conditions conducive to the realization of human freedom, or whether these same ideals and ambitions have produced the conditions for unyielding social domination. Authors will include Hobbes, Rousseau, Kant, Hegel, Marx, Weber, and Foucault.

**Prerequisites:** Course 9; course 11 or 22 or 24; course 100A or 100B or 100C, or by consent of the instructor. Prerequisites waived for non-UCSC students. Familiarity with ancient and modern philosophy or European intellectual history will help you contextualize the readings and issues of this course.

**Readings:** The texts are the foundation of the course. If you like to read and discuss challenging theoretical works, you are likely to succeed in this class. That said, the material is dense, difficult, and highly idiomatic. It therefore requires that you practice “slow reading,” which takes time, concentration, patience, and reflection *before* attending the lecture. **Please come to class equipped with the texts assigned for that day.** Using electronic (epub, mobi, azw3, etc.) or alternate versions of the texts is not advised, since it will be impossible for you to follow along with the lectures. Print text pagination, or proper website identification, is also required for the purpose of citing texts in all written work. E-reader location numbers are not permitted.

**Lectures:** Course lectures will focus on systematic readings of primary texts. There should be no expectation of visual media (slide shows, power point presentations, films, videos, etc.). You are encouraged to participate by asking questions and engaging in discussion.

**Required Texts:** All readings are either available for purchase at the Bay Tree Bookstore or uploaded to ecommons. The editions selected are either the best value or the best edition available.

Foucault, M. *Discipline & Punish: The Birth of the Prison* (Vintage): ISBN: 9780679752554

Hegel, G.W.F. *Introduction to the Philosophy of History* (Hackett): ISBN: 9780872200562

Marx, K & Engels, F. *The Marx-Engels Reader* (Norton): ISBN: 9780393090406

Rousseau, J-J. *The Basic Political Writings*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Hackett): ISBN: 9781603846738

### Optional Texts:

Kant, I. *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals: With on a Supposed Right to Lie Because of Philanthropic Concerns* (Hackett): ISBN: 9780872201668

Kant, I. *Political Writings* (Cambridge): ISBN: 9780521398374

**Course Requirements:** Attendance is expected. Please arrive on time and prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that day. Students are required to complete all assignments. In addition to regular participation there will be a short (750-1250 word) midterm paper and a longer (1750-2000 word) cumulative final paper.

Midterm Paper	40%	Due at the beginning of class: <b>Tuesday, July 5</b>
Final Paper	60%	Due at the beginning of class: <b>Thursday, July 21 @ 6:00PM</b>

**Participation:** Participation is evaluated on the basis of evidence of your preparedness in the course. A lack of in-class participation will neither hurt nor help your final grade. Poor attendance, poor preparedness, coming late to class, leaving early, fidgeting with electronic devices for reasons other than taking notes or reading course documents, conspicuous eating, sleeping, or detracting from the overall learning environment will negatively affect your final grade. Regular and meaningful participation, visiting office hours, and excellent preparedness and collegiality may serve as grounds for raising a final grade, especially if it is on a borderline.

**Note on Electronic Devices:** While the use of laptops for the purpose of taking notes or reading course documents is not forbidden in this course, it is *strongly* recommended that you do not use electronic devices in this class. This will help you to not only avoid distractions, it will also allow you to easily flip back and forth between pages and annotate your texts. When PDFs are assigned, it is recommended that you print, read, and annotate paper copies of these texts.

**Evaluation of Written Work:** Assessment in this course will take the form of an A-NP letter grade. The following standards will be applied to written work in this course:

A: Excellent work, with clear, challenging, original ideas supported by sufficient, appropriate, logically interpreted evidence. The essay should engage the reader in the inquiry, convincingly answer opposing views, be well organized, and free of significant flaws. An 'A' paper should be not just good but outstanding in ideas and presentation.

B: Good to very good work, with a clear thesis supported by sufficient, appropriate evidence, organized and interpreted logically. The 'B' paper may have some outstanding qualities but be marked

by significant flaws which keep it from being an 'A'; or it may be all-around good work, free of major problems but lacking the deeper insight necessary for excellence.

C: Satisfactory work, but not yet good. The 'C' paper meets the basic requirements of a thesis supported by interpretation of specific evidence, but it needs work in thinking and/or presentation. There may be a lack of clarity, the evidence may not always be sufficient and appropriate, or the interpretation may have logical flaws. The essay may have organizational or mechanical problems that keep it from being good. The 'C' paper may be good in some respects but poor in others, or it may simply be adequate but not noteworthy overall.

D: Barely passing work that shows effort but is so marred by serious problems that it cannot be considered a satisfactory paper. Papers without a readily identifiable thesis are liable to be graded 'D'.

No Pass: Failing work—for example, a hasty, sloppy paper that shows little or no thought, effort, or familiarity with the texts and arguments of the course. According to UCSC P/NP policy, a minimum course grade of 'C' is required to receive a 'P' final course grade.

**Late papers will receive 1/3 grade deduction for every day late (A- becomes B+).** NB. Extensions for submitting an assignment will be granted only for medical reasons or on grounds of a family situation or disability. In order to obtain an extension, you must submit a request in writing to the instructor prior to the due date and be prepared to submit supporting evidence for the extension. The instructor reserves the right to specify the location for submitting late papers. The instructor cannot be expected to return late work in a timely manner.

**Please Note:** Poor mechanics will detract from your grades, but good mechanics by themselves do not make a good paper. Sloppy grammar, punctuation, and spelling tax the goodwill of your reader, which all effective writing is careful to respect. These problems won't be overlooked, since they affect the communication of thought. Your enrollment in this course implies that you have read and understood the evaluation criteria.

### **Academic Policies and Resources:**

#### *Learning Support Services:*

Learning Support Services helps students find the resources they need to succeed academically. While there is no tutor specifically designated for this course, there are writing tutors available to all students; you should consider trying to use this service as you prepare to turn in the required paper. Learning Support Services are free of charge. For more information, please see: <http://www2.ucsc.edu/lss/>

#### *Accessibility and Disabilities:*

If you qualify for classroom accommodations because of a disability, please get an Accommodation Authorization from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and submit it to me in person outside of class (e.g., office hours) during the **first or second week** of the course. Contact the DRC at 459-2089 (voice), 459-4806 (TTY), or <http://drc.ucsc.edu> for more information on the requirements and/or process, or if you would like more information about the center. You are not obligated to use DRC services if you contact them, all information is confidential, and services are free of charge. Accommodations cannot be granted without appropriate communication through the DRC.

**Academic Integrity:** Please familiarize yourself with the University's principles, policies, and procedures regarding breaches of academic integrity. These can be found on the "academic integrity" website at: [https://www.ue.ucsc.edu/academic\\_integrity](https://www.ue.ucsc.edu/academic_integrity)

If you are unsure about anything that you read on this website, or what is acceptable or not acceptable in completing assignments for this course, please come and see me. No offenses against standards of academic integrity will be tolerated. Typically, if a plagiarism case or another case violating academic integrity seems to me to be clear cut, it will be processed through the University's system and the academic penalty of failure in the course will be imposed.

**Course Modification Statement:** The instructor and University reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. Under exigent circumstances, the University may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication will be given with explanation. It is the responsibility of students to regularly check UCSC email and course websites during the term in order to note any changes.

### **Assignment Sequence:**

#### **WEEK 1**

**TU, June 21**

**Thomas Hobbes: The Scientific Enlightenment in Politics**

Hobbes, *Elements of Law*, Book II, Ch.10, §8

Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Chs. 13, 14, 15

**TH, June 23**

**Jean-Jacques Rousseau: Critique of the Enlightenment**

Rousseau, *Discourse on the Arts and Sciences. Basic Political Writings*, pp. 1-25

Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality. Basic Political Writings*, pp. 25-92 (+Notes, pp. 93-120)

#### **WEEK 2**

**TU, June 28: MIDTERM PAPER ASSIGNED**

**Rousseau and Kant: From the General Will to Rational Autonomy**

Rousseau, *On the Social Contract. Basic Political Writings*, Bks. 1 & 2, pp. 139-172

Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*, pp. 7-17, 23-25, 30-44

**Recommended:**

Constant, "The Liberty of the Ancients Compared to the Moderns." *Political Writings*, pp. 309-328

**TH, June 30**

**Immanuel Kant: Defending the Enlightenment**

Kant, "An Answer to the Question: 'What is Enlightenment.'" *Political Writings*, pp. 54-60

**Recommended:**

Kant, "Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Purpose." *Political Writings*, pp. 41-53

Kant, "On the Common Saying: 'This May Be True in Theory, But it Does Not Apply in Practice.'" *Political Writings*, pp. 61-92

**WEEK 3**

**TU, July 5: MIDTERM PAPER DUE (Plan accordingly for July 4!)**

**G.W.F. Hegel: The End of History**

Hegel, "The Master-Slave Dialectic." *Phenomenology of Spirit*, §§178-196

Kojève, *Introduction to the Reading of Hegel*, pp. 38-41

Hegel, *Introduction to the Philosophy of History with an Appendix from the Philosophy of Right*, all (esp. pp. 12-82)

**TH, July 7**

**Karl Marx: The Critique of Capitalist Society**

*The Marx-Engels Reader*

Marx, "Preface to *A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy*." *The Marx-Engels Reader*, pp. 3-6 (esp. p. 4)

Marx, "For a Ruthless Criticism of Everything Existing." *The Marx-Engels Reader*, pp. 12-15

Marx, "Theses on Feuerbach." *The Marx-Engels Reader*, pp. 143-145

Marx, "On the Jewish Question," pp. 26-52

Marx, "Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844," pp. 70-105

Marx and Engels, "The German Ideology," pp. 146-200 (time permitting)

**Recommended:**

Marx, "1872 Amsterdam Speech," pp. 522-524

Marx, "Critique of the Gotha Program," pp. 525-541

Marx, *Capital*, Volume One, pp. 294-438

Marx and Engels, *Manifesto of the Communist Party*, pp. 473-491

**WEEK 4**

**TU, July 12: FINAL PAPER ASSIGNED**

**Max Weber and the Frankfurt School: Revolution in Crisis**

Weber, "Bureaucracy." *From Max Weber*, pp. 196-244

Adorno and Horkheimer, *Dialectic of Enlightenment*. "Preface and Introduction," ix-xvii; "The Culture Industry," pp. 120-167

**Recommended:**

Adorno and Horkheimer, *Dialectic of Enlightenment*. "Concept of Enlightenment," 3-42

Weber: Selected Essays:

"Charismatic Authority." *From Max Weber*, pp. 245-252

"Socialism." *Political Writings*, pp. 272-303

“Science as a Vocation.” *From Max Weber*, pp. 129-156  
“The Profession and Vocation of Politics.” *Political Writings*, 309-369

**TH, July 14**

**Michel Foucault: Domination and Resistance**

Foucault, “What Is Enlightenment?” *The Foucault Reader*, pp. 32-50  
Foucault, *Discipline & Punish*. Parts 1, 3 & 4, pp. 3-72, 135-308

**Recommended:**

Weber, “Meaning of Discipline.” *From Max Weber*, pp. 253-264  
Foucault, Selection on “Power” from *The History of Sexuality, vol. I*, pp. 92-96  
Foucault, “Two Lectures” in *Power/Knowledge*, pp. 78-108

**WEEK 5**

**TU, July 19**

Discussion

**TH, July 21: FINAL PAPER DUE @ 6:00PM (in our classroom)**