

**COURSE PLAN for Pol. 605-01: Late Modern Political Philosophy  
Dr. Thomas West, Hillsdale College, Spring 2014**

**INTRODUCTION.**

1/16. Read before the first class: Strauss, *What Is Political Philosophy?*, chap. 1, pp. 9-55, and his review of Dewey, 279-81 (on the Pre-Kantian versus the “German” understanding of morality).

**ROUSSEAU. 6 DAYS.**

1/21. Rousseau, *First Discourse*, in *The First and Second Discourses*, ed. Masters, 30-64.  
Hume, *Of Refinement in the Arts* ..... packet, 3

1/23. Rousseau, *Second Discourse*, 76-77 (frontispiece and title page), 78-79 (first 2 pages of “To the Republic of Geneva”), 91-119. Also read note (i) on 192-203.

1/28. Rousseau, *Second Discourse*, 119-151. also note (l) on 213-220, and note (o) on 221-222.

1/30. Rousseau, *Second Discourse*, 151-181.

2/4. Rousseau, *Social Contract*, Book 1 (all), 46-58.  
Book 2, chaps. 1-7, pp. 59-70; chap. 11, pp. 75-76.  
Book 3, beginning of chap. 1, pp. 78 to top of 80; chap. 4, pp. 84-85.

2/6. Rousseau, *Social Contract*, Book 4, chap. 8, pp. 124-132.  
Strauss, *What Is Political Philosophy?*, chap. 1, 40-53.

**KANT. 3 DAYS.**

2/11. Kant, *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, ed. Gregor, 1-4 (first part of Preface), 10-12 (the idea of duty from Section I), 19-34 (beginning of Section II).

2/13. Kant, *Groundwork*, 34-51 (the rest of Section II), middle of 53 to top of 58 (a selection from Section III).

2/18. Kant, *The Metaphysics of Morals*, ed. Mary Gregor, 3, 9-11 (intro), 20-22 (div. of met. of morals), 61 bot-65 (family), 89-95 (the state), 100 bot-102 (welfare, church), 108-109 (capital punishment), 145-147 top (intro to virtue), 150-152 top (duties to self & others), 176-181 (suicide, lust, drink) ..... packet, 10-31

**HEGEL. 7 DAYS.**

2/20: Hegel, *Philosophy of History*, middle of 8 to top of 10, 16 (starting at Roman numeral II) to 41 (Intro.).

**2/23, Sunday. TENTATIVE DUE DATE FOR FIRST PAPER, 5:00 pm.**

2/25: Hegel, *Philosophy of History*, 41-54, 83-87, 93-99; 103-110 (concluding the Intro; then America, Africa, and overview of world history). Hegel, *Philosophy of Right*, §341-§354 (pp. 372-77).

2/27. Hegel, *Philosophy of History*, 306 to middle of 326; middle of 329 to first third of 330; last paragraph on 333 to 340 (Rome and Christianity); 412-424 (Catholicism and Luther). Hegel, *Philosophy of Right*, §355-§360 (pp. 377-380).

3/4. Hegel, *Philosophy of History*, 424-457 (Enlightenment, modern state).

3/6. Hegel, *Philosophy of Right*, Preface, pp. 20-23 (start with p. 20, line 2, “It is this very relation”);

    selections on the family: §158-163, §166, §171, §173-74;

    selections on civil society: §199, §201-206, §238, §245, §255.

3/11, 3/13. Spring Break

3/18. Hegel, *Philosophy of Right*, selections on the state: §257, §258 (skip Hegel’s long footnote), Addition to §261, Addition (H) to §270, §272-274, §287-297, Addition (G) to §324.

3/20. Marx on Hegel on bureaucracy, in *Marx-Engels Reader*, 2d ed., 23-25 .....packet, 32-33 Strauss, *What Is Political Philosophy?*, 52-54 (discussion of Rousseau and “German idealistic philosophy”), 268-270 (on Hegel and Nietzsche)

    Ely, “Ethics and Economics,” 123-132. This and the next two items are on Blackboard.

    Merriam, *History of American Political Theories*, 305-314, 317 (start at the bottom of the page) to 318.

    Loewenberg, “Burgess, the Scientific Method, and Hegel,” 498-501, 505 (start at ¶2) to 509.

**3/23, Sunday. TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM DUE, 5:00 pm.****NIETZSCHE. 7 DAYS.**

3/25. First half of *Advantage and Disadvantage of History* (§1 through 5).

*Portable Nietzsche*, 95-96 = “The Madman” (God is dead), *Gay Science*, §125.

*Portable Nietzsche*, 121-131 = Zarathustra’s Prologue, first 5 sections.

3/27. Second half of *Advantage and Disadvantage* (§5 through 10).

- 4/1. Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*, Preface and Part 1.  
*Portable*, 225-28 = *Zarathustra*, Second Part, “On Self-Overcoming.”
- 4/3. *Beyond Good and Evil*, Parts 2 and 3.
- 4/8. *Beyond Good and Evil*, Part 5, all; also §257-60, 268 (selection from Part 9).  
*Portable Nietzsche*, 69 = *The Wanderer*, §86, “Socrates.”  
*Portable*, 479-80 = *Twilight of the Idols*, “‘Reason’ in Philosophy,” §1.  
*Portable*, 489-90 = *Twilight of the Idols*, “Morality as Anti-Nature,” §4.
- 4/10. Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*, Part 6; also §285.  
*Portable*, 56-57 = *Human, All Too Human*, §265, “Reason in the Schools.”  
*Portable*, 160-63 = *Zarathustra*, First Part, “On the New Idol” (the modern state).  
*Portable*, 170-72 = *Zarathustra*, First Part, “On the 1001 Goals.”
- 4/15. Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*, Part 7.  
*Portable*, 211-14 = *Zarathustra*, Second Part, “On the Tarantulas.”  
*Portable*, 572-74 = *Antichrist*, §7 (the “virtue” of pity).  
*Portable*, 447-450 = *Gay Science*, §343-344.  
Strauss, *What Is Political Philosophy?* 54-55, 170-72, 268-270 (on Nietzsche).

### MARX. 3 DAYS.

- 4/17. Marx, *The Jewish Question* and “Contribution to the Critique of Hegel: Introduction,” in *Marx-Engels Reader*, ed. Tucker, 2d edition, 40-46, 53-65 .....packet, 34-44
- 4/22. Marx & Engels, *Communist Manifesto*, in *M-E Reader*, 469-491, 499-500 ..... packet, 45
- 4/24. Marx’s legacy.  
 Lenin, “Left Wing” *Communism*, in *Lenin Anthology*, 552-53, 568-70, 571-72 . packet, 59  
 Paul Johnson, *Modern Times*, 266-275 .....63  
 Solzhenitsyn, *Gulag Archipelago*, abridged Ericson, ch. 2, 19-38.....68

### 4/25, Friday midnight. DUE DATE FOR SECOND PAPER.

### CONCLUSION.

- 4/29. Strauss, *What Is Political Philosophy?* 268-270 (review of Löwith).

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Midterm and final examinations. Each counts about 15% of the final grade.

Two papers. Each counts about 35%. 3,000 to 3,400 words each (about 8 to 10 pages if you

print double spaced). Prompts will be provided. Please hand in a *printed* copy and a copy *emailed to me*. Send me the email copy on the Sunday due date by 5:00 pm. On Monday by 5:00 pm, put the printed copy in the mail slot outside my office in Kendall 313. Students must briefly discuss the views of at least three important or thoughtful scholars with whom they disagree in part.

Preparation, participation, memory of assigned readings, and attendance will affect the final grade, in some cases significantly.

At the beginning of class, students will be asked to submit weekly brief questions or comments (about 100-150 words) on that day's assigned readings. These will not be formally graded. For half the class comments are due on Tuesday, the rest Thursday.

For each class period, students should read not only the material assigned for that day, but also the material assigned for the previous day. We will usually be discussing both sets of readings on any given day.

Late work will be accepted, but the grade will typically be lowered. The amount is at the discretion of the instructor.

During the course, and especially in preparation for their papers, grad students are expected to read some of the scholarly literature on some of our authors.

#### **DR. WEST:**

Email twest@hillsdale.edu. Cell phone 972-849-8515, 8:00am to 10:00pm. Leave a message or text me and I will respond. Office hours (Kendall 313): TuTh 11:00-11:15, 1:00-2:15, 3:45-4:00. I am often in the office at other times. For an appointment, email, text, or phone. Or just come by and knock.

#### **BOOKS TO BE PURCHASED:**

Hegel, Georg W. F. *Elements of the Philosophy of Right*, ed. Allen W. Wood. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1991. ISBN 0521348889.

Hegel, Georg W. F. *Philosophy of History*, trans. J. Sibree. New York: Dover Publications, 2004. ISBN 0486437558. (This is identical to the Prometheus Books *Philosophy of History*).

Kant, Immanuel. *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, ed. Mary Gregor. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1998. ISBN 978-0521626958.

Nietzsche, Friedrich. *Beyond Good and Evil*. Trans. Walter Kaufmann. New York: Random/Vintage, 1966. ISBN 0679724656.

Nietzsche, Friedrich. *On the Advantage and Disadvantage of History for Life*. Trans. Peter Preuss. Indianapolis: Hackett, 1980. ISBN 0915144948.

Nietzsche, Friedrich. *The Portable Nietzsche*. Trans. Walter Kaufmann. New York: Penguin, 1977. ISBN 978-0140150629.

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *The First and Second Discourses*. Ed. Roger D. Masters. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1964. ISBN 0312694407.

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *On the Social Contract*. Ed. Roger D. Masters. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1978. ISBN 0312694466.

Strauss, Leo. *What Is Political Philosophy? And Other Studies* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1988. ISBN 0226777138.

West, Thomas G., ed. *Course Packet for Late Modern Political Philosophy, Politics 605*.