

PHIL 1040 – INDIVIDUAL and SOCIETY
Fall 2022
Tuesdays & Thursdays

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I typically respond to emails on weekdays within 24 hours of receipt.

Office Hours:

Columbine 4056; Tuesdays, 1:30-3:00 and by appointment (email me)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course provides an introduction to social and political philosophy. This broad area of thought examines, attempts to understand, and advocates for different kinds of relationships between individuals, political structures, and social norms. We begin by looking at ideas about democratic sociopolitical ideologies its dominant contemporary form, Liberalism. From there, we will get to know several ideologies that are critical of liberalism, including: conservatism, communitarianism, socialism, communism, fascism, and post-Marxist approaches. We then proceed to explore politics of liberation oriented around social categories such as: gender, sex, sexuality, race. The course concludes by exploring the relationships between global and local structures, paying particular attention to questions of climate change and sustainable living on planet Earth.

The purpose of this course is not to prescribe a particular philosophy but rather to help you understand the logics of different social and political structures along with varying understandings of the individual's relationship to those structures. Throughout the course, we will ask how philosophy might provide a foundation for productive discussion, dialogue, and debate.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- (1) *Social and Political Philosophy: A Contemporary Introduction*. John Christman, 2nd Edition, Routledge 2018.
- (2) *Ideals and Ideologies: A Reader*. Edited by Terence Ball, Richard Dagger, and Daniel I. O'Neill.
- (3) Additional articles will be available on Canvas

This course uses the UCCS Bookstore's **Day One e-Textbook Access program** which offers students instant access to online textbooks and to save students as much money as possible. Access your e-textbooks in Canvas.

- On the left side of the course home page, locate and click on the **Vital Source** link.
- You will need to access the content via Canvas using the **Chrome browser**. Safari does not yet work with this program's content
- If you prefer to buy your own copy of the books, you will have until the *opt out* date (listed in the Vital Source content) to discontinue use and not incur the cost.
- For issues and inquiries regarding VitalSource eBooks & Day One Access you can reach a technical specialist 24/6/365 via chat, text, email, and phone <https://support.vitalsource.com/hc/en-us/requests/new> 1-855-200-4146.
- If you have any questions that the technical specialist is unable to answer, contact the bookstore at 719-255-3846.

Nota Bene! Some of the readings for this course are *challenging*. Do not be surprised if you don't immediately understand part of a reading. Part of the job of philosophers is to try to make sense of what an author is saying, and we will work together to do this. You should complete the readings for the week *before* they are discussed in class, although it will often be helpful to re-read them afterwards as well. See the course schedule at the end of this document (page 5-11) for reading assignments.

EVALUATION CRITERIA and GRADES

Course Assignments

- 25% Attendance and Participation
- 25% Quizzes on Canvas (4 total)
- 25% Take-Home Midterm
- 25% Pecha Kucha Final Presentation

Grading Scale

A	100-95	C	76-74
A-	94-90	C-	73-70
B+	89-87	D+	69-67
B	86-84	D	66-64
B-	83-80	D-	63-61
C+	79-77	F	60-0

** For your final grade, I round up to the nearest tenth of a percent. If you finish with an 89.5, that is rounded up to an A-, but if you finish with an 89.499999999999, that is still a B+*

Absences and Late Work. Absences for illness, or the serious illness or death of an immediate family member may be excused with the appropriate documentation, e.g. a doctor's note, or with my advance approval. Please talk to me as soon as practicably possible if you know that you will be missing a class. Late assignments will be accepted without deduction only on *sufficient prior* arrangement with me.

DISCUSSIONS

This course has a significant discussion component. Topics covered are controversial, and thoughtful intelligent people have held opposing views. We will have the opportunity to review several contrasting positions, but, ultimately, you are expected to engage the issues and form your own views. Your learning in this course will depend on your willingness to think critically and formulate your own views so that you can improve your ability to express them clearly and convincingly. ***You should expect that your views will be challenged and be willing to challenge the views of others.*** At the same time, it will be extremely important to ***respect each other*** in discussions. It is important to distinguish between the person offering a particular view and the view itself. The latter may be criticized, but not the former.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to have access to a working computer and the internet during the course. Minimal technical skills required include:

- use Canvas, UCCS's learning management system,
- use emails (and sometimes with attachments) to communicate with instructor,
- create and submit files in .doc, .docx, and .pdf formats
- copy and paste assignment questions, and
- download and install software.

ACADEMIC and TECHNOLOGY HELP

Excel Centers

The Excel Centers (Communication, Languages, Mathematics, Science, and Writing) continue to provide students with outstanding academic support both in-person and remotely. All Excel Centers offer online service appointments. For details, students should visit the Excel Support webpage: <https://excel.uccs.edu/excel-support>

Academic Advising

UCCS Academic advising offers advising for degree programs and an opportunity to ask questions about all things regarding your academic career. For more information, see <https://advising.uccs.edu/>

Technology Help

UCCS Help Desk – 719-255-3536. See also <https://oit.uccs.edu/get-help>

For Canvas issues, you can access technical help through the Help link at the bottom of the global navigation in the Canvas course (black nav bar at the far left of the window). You can also call the Canvas Support Hotline at 844-802-9230. Alternatively, you can access Canvas's Support via Live Chat at <https://uccs.edu/lms/>

Disabilities Services. If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, please register with Disability Services and provide them with documentation of your disability. They will work with you to determine what accommodations are appropriate for your situation. To avoid any delay, you should contact Disability Services as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and disability accommodations cannot be provided until a Faculty Accommodation Letter has been given to me. Please contact Disability Services for more information at Main Hall room 105, 719-255-3354 or dservice@uccs.edu.

Syllabus Changes

I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus as appropriate. Should this happen, I will inform you as soon as possible.

ADDITIONAL UCCS POLICIES and RESOURCES

Student Code of Conduct

UCCS expects all students to conduct themselves as honest, responsible and law-abiding members of the academic community and to respect the rights of other students, members of the faculty and staff and the public to use, enjoy and participate in the University programs and facilities. For additional information, see UCCS's Student Conduct Code at: <https://www.uccs.edu/dos/student-conduct>

Student Educational Records. All records related to this course are confidential and will not be shared with anyone, including parents, without a signed, written release. If you wish to have information from your records shared with others, you must provide written request/authorization to the office/department. Before giving such authorization, you should understand the purpose of the release and to whom and for how long the information is authorized for release.

Plagiarism

Read the UCCS LAS Plagiarism Policy which you can find here: <https://las.uccs.edu/plagiarism-policy>

Paraphrasing or quoting another's work without citing the source is a form of academic misconduct. Even inadvertent or unintentional misuse or appropriation of another's work (such as relying heavily on source material that is not expressly acknowledged) is considered plagiarism. All work for this course must be completed by the person submitting it for evaluation.

Anyone found guilty of plagiarism, cheating, forgery, falsification, or other forms of academic dishonesty will FAIL the course.

If you have any questions about using and citing sources, you are expected to ask for clarification. You plagiarize, you fail. Seriously. When in doubt, just ask me. I am here to help! For useful information about plagiarism, see: <http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/definition.html>

Recording Classes

Students are prohibited from making audio or video recording of any class activity conducted in person or online unless (1) I have given you explicit permission or (2) the student has provided the instructor with a Faculty Accommodation Letter from Disability Services. These letters must be presented to the instructor prior to any recording done and recording should be reserved for that individual's educational use only. Students who are permitted to record are prohibited from distributing recordings without consent. Distribution without consent will be forwarded to the Dean of Students for consideration under the student code of conduct. Recording class activity without consent is a violation of instructor and student right to privacy, copyright, and intellectual property.

Military Deployment and Military Service

In order to assist students who are called to active duty, the Campus has compiled a set of guidelines that include information on withdrawing from courses. General information can be accessed at: <https://www.uccs.edu/military/current-students/active-duty-and-reservists/deployment>

COURSE CALENDAR

WEEK 1 INTRODUCTION to SOCIAL & POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Tuesday
August 23 Review syllabus and expectations.

Thursday
August 25 READING DUE TODAY
Chris Mooney's "Made-up Minds" (Canvas)
Rebecca Solnit's "Preaching to the Choir" (Canvas)
Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*.
"Ideology: The Career of a Concept" in *Ideals and Ideologies* (pp3-9)

WEEK 2 DEMOCRACY, and the INDIVIDUAL

Tuesday
August 30 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*:
Pericles, "Funeral Oration" (pp. 18-21)
Aristotle, "Democratic Judgment and the 'Middling' Constitution" (pp. 24-27)
John Adams "What is a Republic?" (pp. 34-37)
Bill of Rights of the United States (pp. 40)
Alexis de Tocqueville's "Democracy and Equality" (pp42-48)

Thursday
September 1 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*:
John Stuart Mill, "Democratic Participation and Political Education" (pp50-55)
A. Sullivan, "Democracies End When They Are Too Democratic" (pp62-70)
Timothy Egan, "The Dumbed Down Democracy" (pp. 72-73)

WEEK 3 THE LIBERAL PARADIGM

Tuesday
September 6 LABOR DAY. NO CLASS TODAY.

Thursday
September 8 Excerpts from Chapters 1-3 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
"The Liberal Democratic Paradigm" (pp. 5-7)
"What is Social Philosophy" (pp. 22-25)
"The Social Contract Tradition" (pp. 46-48)
"Locke: Reason, Morality, and Freedom" (pp. 60-65)
"Lessons from Rousseau and Kant" (pp. 65-69)

WEEK 4 THE LIBERAL PARADIGM cont.

Tuesday
September 13 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
Adam Smith's "Private Profit, Public Good" (pp. 116-117)
John Stuart Mill's "Liberty and Individuality" (pp. 124-129)
T.H. Greene's "Liberalism and Positive Freedom" (pp. 136-138)

Thursday
September 15 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Commonwealth Club Address" (pp. 140-145)
Lyndon B. Johnson's speech at Howard University, (pp. p.148-151)
Paul Krugman's "The Conscience of a Liberal" (pp. 154-158)

Quiz #1 in Canvas opens by end of day
Quiz #1 is due by 11:59pm on Monday, September 19th

WEEK 5 BLURRY EDGES OF LIBERALISM

Tuesday
September 20 excerpts from *Social and Political Philosophy*
"Libertarianism" (pp. 83-89)
Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
Donald Allen's "Paternalism vs. Democracy" (pp. 160-164)
Jason Brennan's "The Basics of Libertarianism" (Canvas) (18pp)
Watch Amitai Etzioni's brief video, "The Five Minute Communitarian" (Canvas)
Excerpts from Chapter 6 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
"Communitarianism" (pp. 146-158)

Thursday
September 22 Excerpts from Chapter 6 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
"Conservatism" (pp. 142-146)
Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
Burke's "Society, Reverence, and the 'True Natural Aristocracy'" (pp. 182-187)
Michael Oakeshott's "On Being Conservative" (pp. 194-201)
Ronald Reagan's "Modern American Conservatism" (pp. 212-218)
Boot and Brooks' "Conservatives Assess Trump" (pp. 224-228)
Excerpt from MacIntyre's *After Virtue* (Canvas) (pp. 220-224)
Andrew Bakevich's "American Conservatism" (Canvas) (3pp)

WEEK 6 FASCISM and/or AUTHORITARIANISM

Tuesday
September 27 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
Mussolini's "The Doctrine of Fascism" (pp. 338-345)
Rocco's "Political Theory of Fascism" (pp. 348-352)

Thursday
September 29 Listen to the podcast interview on Fascism w/ Ruth Ben-Ghiat (canvas)
Read Heather Cox Richardson's newsletter ("Letters from an American") from 1/16/21(Canvas)
On The New Fascism Syllabus web page, read the "Home" and "About" sections as well as the blog entry entitled, "How to Keep the Lights On in Democracies: An Open Letter of Concern by Scholars of Authoritarianism" (links on canvas)
Timothy Snyder's *NYT* article, "The American Abyss" (canvas)

WEEK 7 UTOPIANISM & FOUNDATIONS of MARXISM

Tuesday
October 4 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
More's "Utopia" (pp. 232-237)
Owen's "Address to the Inhabitants of New Lanark" (pp. 240-242)
Marx and Engels' "Communist Manifesto" (pp. 244-255)
Marx's "On the Materialist Conception of History" (pp. 258)

Thursday
October 6 Excerpts from Chapter 9 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
"The Legacy of Marx and Marxism" (pp. 209-221)
Louis Menand's "Karl Marx, Yesterday and Today" (Canvas)

WEEK 8 SOCIALISM and COMMUNISM AFTER MARX

Tuesday
October 11 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies* (34pp total)
Lenin's "Revisionism, Imperialism, and Revolution" (pp. 270-283)
Trotsky's "The Permanent Revolution" (pp. 286-289)
Mao Zedong's "On the People's Democratic Dictatorship" (pp. 292-298)

Thursday
October 13 Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies* (34pp total)
Bakunin's "Anarcho-Communism vs. Marxism" (pp. 302-303)
Emma Goldman's "Anarchism: What It Really Stands For" (pp. 306-313)
Debs "Speech to the Conference for Progressive Political Action" (pp. 316-320)
Sanders "On Democratic Socialism in the United States" (pp. 322-326)

Quiz #2 in Canvas opens by end of day
Quiz #2 is due by 11:59pm on Monday, October 17th

Receive Midterm Prompt by end of week.

WEEK 9 NEOLIBERALISM

**Tuesday
October 18** Stephen Metcalf's article in *The Guardian*, "Neoliberalism: The Idea that Swallowed the World" (Canvas)
"Introduction: Living in Competition" from Julie Wilson's, *Neoliberalism* (18pp)
Barnard College, Center for Research on Women's video, "What is Neoliberalism?" (10min)
Video interview with Prof. Wendy Brown on "How Neoliberalism Threatens Democracy" (20min) (Canvas)

**Thursday
October 20** **No class today. Work on your midterms.**

WEEK 10 CRITICAL THEORY and CULTURAL STUDIES

**Tuesday
October 25** Excerpts from Chapter 9 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
"Post-Modern Departures" (pp. 221-228)
Stuart Walton's "Theory from the Ruins" (link on canvas)
Michel Foucault's "On the Role of Prisons" (link on canvas)
"Prison Talk" interview with Michel Foucault (Canvas) (18pp)

**Thursday
October 27** In-class Film: *Miss Representation*

Friday **Midterm due in Canvas by 11:59pm on Friday, October 28th**

WEEK 11 GREEN IDEOLOGY

**Tuesday
November 1** Excerpts from *Ideals and Ideologies*
Thiele's "Sustainability in the Age of Ecology" (pp. 470-477)
Wendell Berry's "Getting Along with Nature" (pp. 480-486)
Val Plumwood's "Feminism and the Mastery of Nature" (pp. 488-493)
James Cones's "Whose Earth Is It, Anyway?" (p. 496-501)
Pope Francis's "*Laudato Si'*: On Care for our Common Home" (pp. 504-509)

**Thursday
November 3** Excerpts from Chapter 10 of *Social and Political Philosophy*
"Beyond the Nation State" (pp. 234-249)

**Quiz #3 in Canvas opens by end of day.
Quiz #3 due by 11:59pm on Monday, November 7th**

**Thursday
December 1**

Pecha Kucha presentations

**Quiz #4 in Canvas opens by end of day
Quiz #4 due by 11:59pm on Monday, December 5th**

WEEK 16

DEAD WEEK

**Tuesday
December 6**

Pecha Kucha presentations

**Thursday
December 8**

Pecha Kucha presentations

FINALS WEEK

Pecha Kucha presentations