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PSC 250E.01: Political Theory

Ronald F. Perrin

University of Montana - Missoula, ronald.perrin@umontana.edu

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POLITICAL SCIENCE 250
POLITICAL THEORY

PROFESSOR: PERRIN
ASSISTANT: SALO
FALL, 1995

REQUIRED TEXT: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, *Great Political Thinkers*.
Hannah Arendt, *Between Past and Future*

READING ASSIGNMENTS, LECTURE TOPICS, AND EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

- Week of September 4: Introductory lecture and Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 18-49 (Plato).
- Week of September 11: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 50-80 (Plato).
- Week of September 18: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 81-126 (Aristotle), pp. 144-154 Cicero).
- Week of September 25: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 191-223 (The Judeo-Christian Background & St. Augustine). Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 316-324 (Machiavelli).
- Week of October 2: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 325-336 (Machiavelli)
FIRST EXAMINATION WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4
Ebenstein & Ebenstein, 397-406 (Hobbes).
- Week of October 9: Ebenstein & Ebenstein pp. 407-424 (Hobbes).
- Week of October 16: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 425-454 (Locke). Lecture on Locke's influence on Thomas Jefferson and James Madison.
- Week of October 23: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 562-593 (Burke). Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 650-684 (John Stuart Mill)
- Week of October 30: Review for second examination. SECOND EXAMINATION, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 1.
Ebenstein & Ebenstein pp. 726-736 (Karl Marx)
- Week of November 6: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 737-773 (Marx and Lenin).
- Week of November 13: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 796-805 (Mussolini), Film: *Triumph of the Will*
Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 876-888 (Keynes)
- November 20: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 889-897 (Myrdal)
- Week of November 27: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 922-944 (Rawls).

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Week of December 4: Arendt, Chapters One and Three.

Week of December 11: Arendt, Chapters Four and Six. Review for
final examination.

FINAL EXAMINATION: 1:10-3:10, MONDAY, DECEMBER 18.

NOTE: EXAMINATIONS COVER MATERIAL FROM LECTURES AS WELL AS
MATERIAL FROM READING ASSIGNMENTS.

NOTE: OCTOBER 9 IS THE LAST DAY TO DROP A COURSE OR CHANGE THE
GRADING OPTION.

THE LECTURE HALL/CLASSROOM LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Wherever the learning process takes place (for example, in the library or the seclusion of one's study) it does so best when there are a minimum of distractions. This requirement poses special challenges for the learning that takes place in the lecture hall or the classroom, where the possibility of distractions is the greatest.

In order to establish and maintain a supportive learning environment for my students I will not tolerate the few individuals who might be prone to a) come to class late or leave early, b) carry on private conversations during class or, c) use the lecture hall/classroom as an opportunity to read material, such as the Kaimin, that is not relevant to the subject matter under consideration.

The only exceptions to these conditions concern students whose work schedules or unanticipated appointments require them to arrive for class late or leave early. In these instances I would appreciate knowing of the circumstance before it occurs and, in all such instances, request that students do so as unabtrusively as possible.

Thank you

Ron Perrin
Professor of Political Theory