CITIZENS AND SAINTS: CLASSICAL POLITICAL THOUGHT

The course centers around two major events in the history of the West: the development of politics as a specifically human form of interaction and the evolution of the political form in the context of an absolutist and universalist value system -- Christianity. The two central figures of the course are Plato and St. Augustine: they will stand back to back, as it were, in our consideration of them. To understand them fully, though, it will be necessary to consider both what comes before and after them.

I have asked you to buy the following books, which are in stock at the University Book Store. Since we will often be directly concerned with the text, it would help if you had these editions and brought them to class at the appropriate times. The only edition which I would prefer that you not use is the Cornford edition of the Republic.

**Sophocles, Antigone (Crofts)**  
**Plato:**  
*Republic* (Hackett)  
*Trial and Death of Socrates* (Hackett)  
(includes *Apology, Crito*)  
*Protagoras* (Hackett)  
**Aristotle, Politics* (Hackett)  
**Thucydides, On Justice, Power and Human Nature* (Hackett)  
**Augustine, Political Writings* (Hackett)  
**The New Testament** (preferable King James or Revised Standard Version)

**Requirements:**
- Attendance and participation in classroom discussion.
- A three page take-home essay on Plato's *Apology or Crito* - DUE October 17 (20%);
- An in-class mid-term on November 2; (30%)
- An in-class final exam. (50%)

**Office Hours** are Monday 1-3 or by appointment or drop-in. My office is in SSB 374. Email: tstrong@ucsd.edu. Phone is 534-7081. Mr. Barrett’s office hours are Wednesdays 10-12 in SSB 329. The PowerPoints will be posted at polisci2.ucsd.edu/rabarrett/ps110a (often with extra material).

Among texts which can provide valuable insights into political theory are the following, which have been placed on reserve. "Secondary Reading" is drawn from these:

Sheldon Wolin, *Politics and Vision*
Leo Strauss and J. Cropsey, *History of Political Philosophy*; L. Strauss, *The City and Man*
George Sabine, *A History of Western Political Philosophy*

The reading is divided into "required reading" (obvious), “secondary reading” from those books on political theory listed above, and “other” relevant material for further pursuit. This last category is for your information and help, in case you feel the need. All students are expected to do all the required reading; the secondary reading is composed of standard commentaries and is for your help. (How much depends on your interests, time, endurance, etc...)

**NB This schedule is approximate and will likely be deviated from to a greater or lesser extent.**

**I. THE NATURE AND ROLE OF POLITICAL THEORY: INTRODUCTION Sept. 23: The pólis**

**Required:** None

**Secondary:** Wolin, Chapter I  
Strauss and Cropsey, Introduction
Other: L. Strauss, *What is Political Philosophy*
P. Laslett and W. Runciman, eds. *Politics, Philosophy and Society*, 1st & 2nd series
M. Oakeshott, *Rationalism in Politics*, esp. "Political Education"
Sheldon Wolin, "Political Theory and Paradigms," in King and Parekh, eds., *Politics and Experience*
G. Kateb, *Political Theory*
H. Arendt, *The Human Condition*

II. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY AND DISCOURSE: Sept 26, 28


**Secondary:** Strauss, pp 203-222

Other: F. de Coulanges, *The Ancient City*
V. Ehrenberg, *The Greek State*
A. Gouldner, *Enter Plato*
L. Strauss, and Xenophon *On Tyranny*
M.I. Finley, *The Greek View of History*
E. Voegelin, *The World of the Polis*
G.R. Morrow, *Plato's Cretan City*, Chapters II,III
David Grene, *Man in his Pride*
Aristotle, *The Constitution of Athens*
F.M. Cornford, *Thucydides Mythistoricus*
B. Snell, *The Discovery of the Mind*
V. Scully, *The Earth, the Temple and the Gods*, Chap. I and X
V. Ehrenberg, *From Solon to Socrates*
P. Euben, "Creatures of a Day", in T. Ball, ed., *Political Theory & Praxis*

**The Tragedy of Political Theory**

III. THE DEMONSTRATION OF POLITICS: GREEK DRAMATISTS (Sept. 30)

**Required:** Sophocles, *Antigone*

**Secondary:** Sophocles, *Oedipus the King*

**Oedipus at Colonnus**

Other: Euripides, *Ion*
— _________ *Hippolytus*
— _________ *Iphigenia in Tauris*
— _________ *The Bacchae*

Aeschylus, *The Orestes Plays*

**Seven Against Thebes**

H.F. Kitto, *Form and Meaning in Drama*
Aristotle, *The Poetics*
J.P. Vernant, *Myth and tragedy in ancient Greece,* esp."Oedipus without Complexes"
M. Nussbaum, *The Fragility of Goodness*
J. Peter Euben, ed. *Greek Tragedy and Political Theory*

IV. PLATO: Oct. 3---- Oct. 1
A. Introduction: The Platonic Method

**Required:** None (Oct. 3)

**Secondary:**
- Wolin, Chapter II
- Sabine, Chapter III, IV
- Strauss and Cropsey, pp. 7-63

**Other:**
- A.W. Gouldner, Enter Plato
- G. Vlastos, ed., Plato I and II - These 3 books represent the best in analytical Plato scholarship.
- P. Shorey, What Plato Said
- A. Koyre, Discovering Plato
- A.E. Taylor, Plato, the Man and His Thought
- K. Popper, The Open Society and its Enemies
- J. Eckstein, The Platonic Method
- V. Goldschmidt, Les Dialogues de Platon, structure et methode dialectique
- T. Gould, Platonic Love
- M.J. O'Brien, The Socratic Paradoxes and the Greek Mind
- Dorothy Tarrant, "Plato as Dramatist," Journal of Hellenic Studies, 1955, pp. 82-89
- E. Voegelin, Plato

B. Teaching, Virtue and Knowledge: The "Protagoras"

**Required:** Protagoras, Oct. 5,7

**Other:**
- E.R. Dodds, ed., Gorgias, esp. Appendix
- F. Nietzsche, Truth and Lie in the Extra-Moral Sense

C. The Individual and the State: Socrates

**Required:** Apology, Crito. Oct 10-12

**Other:**
- G. Vlastos, ed., Socrates - see also bibliography.
- L. Strauss, ed., Xenophon's Socratic Discourse

D. The Response of the City (Oct 14)

**Required:** none

**Secondary:** Aristophanes, The Clouds
- Plato, Symposium, Euthyphro
- Xenophon, Memorabilia

**Other:**
- L. Strauss, Socrates and Aristophanes
- T. Strong, Friedrich Nietzsche and the Politics of Transfiguration, Chapt. VI
- Aristophanes, The Knights
- ____________, The Frogs
Oct. 17-26: Plato in response

E. Plato: Justice for the Individual and the City

Required: Republic, Book I (Oct 17-19); Books II-VII (Oct 21-24); Books VIII-X (Oct 26)

Other: A. Sesonske, ed., The Republic
A. Bloom, "Interpretive Essay" in his edition of the Republic
G.R. Morrow, Plato's Cretan City
R.B. Levinson, In Defense of Plato
R. Friedlander, Plato
Plato, The Laws
Averroes, On Plato's Republic, ed. R. Lerner
George F. Hourani, Trasymachus' Definition of Justice in Plato's Republic

MIDTERM ON MATERIAL THROUGH HERE ON NOV 2

VI. ARISTOTLE: THE WORLD AND THE CITY (Oct 18, 31, Nov 4)

Required: Politics: Bk I; Bk II, Chaps.1-6; Bk III; Bk IV, Chaps. 1-14; Bk V, Chaps. 1-4; Bk VI, Chaps 1-5; Bk VII-VIII. (Different Aristotle are divided different ways. The so called Bekker numbers for the above passages are: 1242-1264 b 25; 1274 b 32 - 1297 b 18; 1301 a 19 - 1304; 1316 b 31 - 1320b 17; 1323 a 14 - 1342 b 26.)

Secondary: Downton, Chapters IV, V
Strauss, pp. 63-129.
Kramnick, Chapter II
Sabine, Chapters V and VI

Other: Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, esp. Bks V, VIII
L. Strauss, The City and Man, Chap. II
Jaeger, Aristotle
J.H. Randall, Aristotle
H. Kelsen, What is Justice?, esp. "Aristotle's Conception of Justice"
P. Winch, "Nature and Convention" Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society,

Vol. 59-60

VI. Polis to Empire: Nov. 7

Required: None

Secondary: Wolin, Chapter III
Sabine, Chapter VII-IX

Other: W. Hammond, City State and World State
M. Hadas, Hellenistic Culture
V. Ehrenberg, Alexander and the Greeks
C. Bailey, The Legacy of Rome (esp. essay by Barker)
M. Pohlenz, Freedom in the Ancient World
VII. CHRISTIANITY AND THE NEW COMMUNITY

NO CLASS NOV 11: Veterans Day

Nov. 9,14: A. The Revolution of the ekklesia


Secondary: Wolin, Chapter IV
Strauss and Cropsey, pp. 151-181
Sabine, Chapter X

Other: G.B. Caird, Principalities and Powers
S.S. Wolin, Politics and Vision, Chapter III
E.R. Dodds, Pagan and Christian in an Age of Anxiety
O. Cullman, Dieu et César, The State in the New Testament; Christ and Time

Nov 16-21: Augustine

Required: i. The Purpose of Government: Political Writings (The City of God), Book XI; XIV- XVI; XIX (NOV 16, 18)

ii. The Community of Love and Power: Political Writings (The City of God), Book V, 8-12; XIII, 1-4; XVIII, esp. 1-2 Political Writings, 202-247; Email of Letters of Augustine (Nov 21, 28)

Other: Augustine, Confessions, esp.Books I-II, VII-XI
C.N. Cochrane, Christianity and Classical Culture
E. Gilson, The Christian Philosophy of St. Augustine
E.H. Brookes, The City of God and the Politics of Crisis, ed., Augustine
J.N. Figgis, Political Aspects of St. Augustine's 'City of God'
R. Niebuhr, Christian Realism and Political Problems
Peter Brown, Augustine of Hippo (see bibliography)

No class Nov. 23,25 THANKSGIVING

XI. Nov 30- Dec 2: The “Middle Ages” and Conclusion: The Legacy of a Divided Self

Required: None

Suggested: E. Lewis, "Organic Tendencies in Medieval Political Thought," APSR, 1938, pp 849 ff
M. Bloch, Feudal Society, Vol.I,Chaps.7-17; Vol.II, Chaps.21-30
E.H. Kantorowicz, *The King's Two Bodies*
A.P. d'Entreves, *Dante as a Political Thinker*
O. Jaszi and J.D. Lewis, *Against the Tyrant*
E. Cassirer, *The Individual and the Cosmos in the Early Renaissance*
Nancy S. Struever, *The Language of History in the Renaissance*
de la Mirandola, *Oration on the Dignity of Man*

**FINAL EXAM**

**Thursday**
**Dec. 8**
**11:30-2:30**
**This room.**