UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

POLITICAL SCIENCE 110DA:
FREEDOM & DISCIPLINE –
POLITICAL THOUGHT IN THE 20TH CENTURY

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SPRING 2010

LECTURE: MWF 10-10:50
@ CENTER 212

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COURSE OVERVIEW:

This course covers a broad set of attempts to reckon with the extremes of 20th century politics. Accepting that this is a world in which genocide is possible and justice is uncertain, how does one live life? How can we face our history and still side with liberty and justice? These are the questions facing these thinkers as they attempt to make sense of World War I, World War II, decolonization, the Cold War, and the emerging global politics of today.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Readings denoted by (B) can be purchased at the Student Bookstore.

Those denoted by (e) are accessible through UCSD’s e-reserves. Go to http://roger.ucsd.edu/ and follow the links for “Course Reserves”.

(*) Additional materials, including handouts and paper prompts, will be available on the course website: http://ajplyon.wordpress.com/teaching/political-science-110da/

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Short Response Paper (2-3 pages) 15%
Paper (5-6 pages) 35%
Final Exam 50%

Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to pass the course.
**WEEK 1**

3/29  **INTRODUCTION: POLITICAL THOUGHT IN THE 20TH CENTURY**

3/31-4/2  **LIBERAL DEMOCRACY IN CRISIS: AMERICA**
- (B) James Weldon Johnson, *Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man*

**WEEK 2**

4/5-7  **LIBERAL DEMOCRACY IN CRISIS: AMERICA**
- (B) John Dewey, *Liberalism & Social Action*

4/9  **LIBERAL DEMOCRACY IN CRISIS: GERMANY**
- (e) Walter Benjamin, “The Storyteller”

**WEEK 3**

4/12-16  **LIBERAL DEMOCRACY IN CRISIS: GERMANY**
- (B) Carl Schmitt, *Concept of the Political*, (19-79)

**WEEK 4**

4/19-21  **LIBERAL DEMOCRACY IN CRISIS: GERMANY**
- (B) Max Weber, “Politics as a Vocation”, (32-94)

4/23  [TBD]

**WEEK 5**

4/26  **PAPER DUE**

4/26-30  **THE POST-WORLD WAR II WORLD: THE POLITICAL**
- (B) Hannah Arendt, selections from *The Portable Hannah Arendt*
  - “The Perplexities of the Rights of Man” (31-45)
  - “The Revolutionary Tradition & Its Lost Treasure” (508-539)
  - “Truth and Politics” (545-575)

**WEEK 6**

5/3-5  **THE POST-WORLD WAR II WORLD: CHRISTIAN REALISM**
- (B) Reinhold Niebuhr, *Irony and American History*

5/7  **THE POST-WORLD WAR II WORLD: REBELLION & THE ABSURD**
- (e) Albert Camus, “Neither Victims, Nor Executioners”
WEEK 7

5/10-14 THE POST-WORLD WAR II WORLD: REBELLION & THE ABSURD
   • (B) Albert Camus, The Plague

WEEK 8

5/17-21 AGAINST SOVEREIGNTY: DECOLONIZATION
   • (B) Albert Memmi, The Colonizer and the Colonized

WEEK 9

5/24-28 AGAINST SOVEREIGNTY: INDIVIDUAL-IN-THE-WORLD
   • Michel Foucault, selections from The Essential Foucault
     o (e) “The Subject and Power”
     o (e) “Governmentality”
     o (*) “Confronting Governments: Human Rights”

WEEK 10

5/31 MEMORIAL DAY – NO CLASS

6/2-4 AGAINST SOVEREIGNTY: DEMOCRACY TODAY
   • (e) Sheldon Wolin, “Fugitive Democracy”

6/4 AGAINST SOVEREIGNTY: GLOBAL JUSTICE
   • [No reading]

FINALS WEEK

6/7 EXAM: MONDAY, 8-11AM

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship must be observed for this course. For the full honor code see the following link:
http://infopath-1.ucsd.edu/catalog/front/AcadRegu.html

If you need accommodation for a disability or for religious reasons, please see me as soon as possible so that the appropriate arrangements can be made.

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