Revolution and Reaction: Political Thought from Rousseau to Nietzsche

The course deals with the period which marks the triumph and critique of the modern state. Central topics include the development of the idea of class, of the autonomous individual, of the irrational, of the unconscious, and of rationalized authority as they affect politics. **It is important to have done the reading before class as the lectures will not simply summarize the reading.**

You are asked to purchase the following books at the bookstore.

- Rousseau, *Basic Political Writings* (ed: Cress) Hackett
- Kant, *Perpetual Peace & Other Essays* — Hackett
- G.W.F. Hegel, *Introduction to the Philosophy of History* - Hackett
- Marx, *Selected Writings* (ed: Simon) Hackett
- Nietzsche, *Twilight of The Idols* (ed. Polt and Strong) Hackett

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March 28: Introduction; Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*

April 4: Rousseau, *Social Contract*; Burke, *Revolution in France*

April 11: Kant, *What is Enlightenment*; *Perpetual Peace, Idea for a Universal History*

April 18: Hegel, *Introduction to the Philosophy of History*

April 25: **MIDTERM on Rousseau, Kant and Burke, and Hegel**


May 9: Mill, *On Liberty*

May 16: Nietzsche, *Twilight of the Idols*

May 23: Extra Time and conclusion

May 30 MEMORIAL DAY
FINAL IN CLASS AT SCHEDULED TIME