

Credit Weighting: 0.50**Pre-/Co-Requisites:** POLS*2000 or
POLS*3280**Restrictions:** POLS*3021**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION****Name:** Theresa Lee**Email:** tmlee@uoguelph.ca**Office Location:** MacKinnon 512**GENERAL DETAILS**

This course examines thinkers designated as modern in the history of Western political thought, covering a time span of about two centuries that began in the late seventeenth century. The period was marked importantly by the birth of modern liberalism, which remains the normative mainstay of political structures and practices in the Western world today. Against this background, the course focuses on three thinkers from this period – John Locke (1632-1704), John S. Mill (1806-1879) and Karl Marx (1818-1883). The course also aims to provide instances of concrete connection between the history of political thought and its continuing role in shaping today's politics.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The design of the course is informed by the following objectives (formerly known as University Learning Objectives):

1. Literacy

Insightful thinkers are usually powerful writers who are able to use their writing very effectively. In addition to studying the content of the thought itself, you will be analyzing how complex arguments are constructed. Course assignments aim to provide you with the opportunity to become an effective communicator by way of more precise use of language, both in oral and written forms.

2. Numeracy

The contemporary world is inundated with all kinds of statistical information. Although the course is not about how statistical information is compiled, it provides the normative grounding for understanding why the interpretation and use of numbers matter.

3. Understanding Forms of Inquiry

**METHOD OF ASSESSMENT**

Quote and Comment (in-class exercise) -- 15%

General class participation -- 5%

Midterm Quiz -- 20%

Essay -- 25%

Final Examination (on campus during exam period) -- 35%

REQUIRED READINGLocke, John. *Second Treatise of Government*, edited by C. B. Macpherson. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 1980.Marx, Karl. *Selected Writings*, edited by Lawrence H. Simon. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1994.Mill, John S. *On Liberty, Utilitarianism and Other Essays*, edited by Mark Philp and Frederick Rosen. 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.**Department of Political Science**5th Floor MacKinnon - 50 Stone Road East

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