

POLS2000 Political Theory

Credit Weighting: 0.50**Pre-/Co-Requisites:** none**Restrictions:** PHIL*2280**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION****Name:** Theresa Lee**Email:** tmlee@uoguelph.ca**Office Location:** MacKinnon Rm 512**GENERAL DETAILS**

The course is an introduction to Political Theory, which is a major subfield in the discipline of political science. As a distinctive form of study, political theory is concerned with normative issues that arise from politics. The guiding question for all political theorists is the question of how a polity ought to be constructed. Typically a political theorist breaks down the question into a number of related issues, such as the nature and extent of political power, the purpose of the state and the place of individuals in a polity. Related to these issues are concepts such as equality, freedom, and justice. The course aims to provide a systematic examination of these basic issues and concepts through the works of a wide range of thinkers.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course aims to enhance students' critical thinking and literacy through direct engagement with the original writings of political thinkers who ask fundamental questions about the nature and role of politics in the human community

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

1. Participation (15%)
3. Quizzes (15%)
3. Midterm Assignment (15%)
4. Review Essay (20%)
5. Final Examination (35%)

REQUIRED READING

Rosen, Michael & Jonathan Wolff, eds. *Political Thought*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999.
Miller, David. *Political Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.