

 FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	NEW COURSE PROPOSAL Undergraduate Programs		UUPC Approval <u>4-26-21</u> UFS Approval _____ SCNS Submittal _____ Confirmed _____ Banner Posted _____ Catalog _____
	Department College <i>(To obtain a course number, contact erudolph@fau.edu)</i>		
Prefix Number	<i>(L = Lab Course; C = Combined Lecture/Lab; add if appropriate)</i> Lab Code	Type of Course	Course Title
Credits <i>(Review Provost Memorandum)</i>	Grading <i>(Select One Option)</i> Regular Pass/Fail Sat/UnSat	Course Description <i>(Syllabus must be attached; Syllabus Checklist recommended; see Guidelines)</i>	
Effective Date <i>(TERM & YEAR)</i>			
Prerequisites, with minimum grade*		Corequisites	Registration Controls <i>(Major, College, Level)</i>
*Default minimum passing grade is D-. Prereqs., Coreqs. & Reg. Controls are enforced for all sections of course			
WAC/Gordon Rule Course Yes No WAC/Gordon Rule criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to proposal. See WAC Guidelines .		Intellectual Foundations Program (General Education) Requirement <i>(Select One Option)</i> General Education criteria must be indicated in the syllabus and approval attached to the proposal. See GE Guidelines .	
Minimum qualifications to teach course			
Faculty Contact/Email/Phone		List/Attach comments from departments affected by new course	
Approved by Department Chair <u>Kevin Wagner</u> College Curriculum Chair <u>[Signature]</u> College Dean <u>[Signature]</u> UUPC Chair <u>Jerry Haky</u> Undergraduate Studies Dean <u>Edward Pratt</u> UFS President _____ Provost _____			Date <u>2/16/21</u> <u>2.18.21</u> <u>3-3-2021</u> <u>4-26-21</u> <u>4-26-21</u> _____ _____

Email this form and syllabus to mjenning@fau.edu seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

Political Theory 2002: Global Political Theory

Florida Atlantic University, Fall 2021

Course Credits: 3.000

Prerequisites/Corequisites: None

TR 11:00AM-12:20PM, Social Science Building Boca 170

Instructor: Dr. Rebecca LeMoine

Office: Social Science 384C

Contact: rlemoine@fau.edu or (561) 287-3947

Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs.

9:45-10:45AM, or by appt.

*“We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.”
-T.S. Eliot, “Quartet No. 4: Little Gidding”*

Course Description

This course takes as its point of departure the origin of the word “theory” in the ancient Greek θεωρία (*theoria*). Used in the fourth century B.C. to describe the practice of philosophy, the word “theory” originally referred to a journey outside the boundaries of one’s political community undertaken to observe and report upon the great spectacles. Animated by this understanding of the philosophical endeavor as a form of travel, we will challenge some of our assumptions about politics by engaging with a selection of major works in political theory from across the globe. “Global” political theory therefore refers to the fact that the study of political theory in this course will be global in nature, covering a variety of cultural traditions rather than focusing exclusively on the “Western” tradition of political thought.

Traditionally, “political theory” has been synonymous with European and North American political thought. This restrictive view of the political theory canon—largely the byproduct of colonial and post-colonial power relations—has done an incredible disservice to the study of political theory. While the concept of “Western” and “non-Western” works is itself problematic, as we will see, the narrow focus on certain traditions of thought to the exclusion of others has limited the possible range of answers to universal questions in political theory concerning the nature of justice, the best form of government, and the rights and duties of political membership. As the recent emergence of the “comparative political theory” subfield has shown, there is much to be learned by broadening our horizons or “deparochializing” political theory.

The effort to engage with differently situated political perspectives from across the world necessarily involves restrictions of its own. This course will not examine in-depth any particular tradition of political thought (e.g., Indian political thought, African political thought, Indigenous political thought, and so on). Rather, the course aims at provoking contemplation of core political theory questions by exploring a sampling of works from various traditions. In other words, this course offers a *beginning* to the study of political theory in global perspective; it neither aspires to be, nor can be, comprehensive. The hope is that this experience will be eye-opening and perhaps even inspire further reflection.

Objectives

- 1) Become familiar with major questions, areas of study, and methodologies in the field of comparative political theory.
- 2) Examine differing approaches to a selection of core political theory questions by comparing works drawn from a variety of cultural traditions, including “Western” and “non-Western” political thought.
- 3) Learn to read and interpret political theory works.
- 4) Improve ability to construct persuasive arguments, both verbal and written.
- 5) Practice a more contemplative and self-aware form of citizenship, and consider its effects on political life and personal fulfillment.

Classroom Expectations

To be successful in this course (i.e., to meet the course objectives and to receive a passing grade):

1. Students must regularly attend lecture.

Regular attendance at lecture is vital for success in this course. Therefore, attendance will be taken promptly at the start of every class meeting. Arriving late, leaving early, or repeatedly leaving and re-entering the room is disruptive both to me and your peers; if you cannot regularly be present for the duration of the class, then you should reconsider your enrollment. Everyone is expected to be present—not just physically, but psychologically. You cannot be present if you are checking email, chatting online, watching ESPN, etc. Accordingly, ***electronic devices are not allowed***. Please silence and stow away your laptops, cell phones, iPads, etc. and be sure to bring pen(cil) and paper so that you may take notes the old-fashioned way. If you are texting during class or otherwise being disruptive, you will be asked to leave.

2. Students must complete all assigned readings prior to the start of lecture.

While this course will be delivered in lecture format, you will find that my lectures are not substitutes for doing the course readings. Rather, I will assume throughout the lecture that you have completed the assigned readings and grasped the basic points; the purpose of lecture will be to augment your understanding by providing relevant background information, clarifying particularly difficult interpretive points, and raising further questions for your consideration.

3. Students must practice “close” reading.

As you will discover, political theory readings tend to be dense, requiring focused attention. There are no “abstracts” at the top, nor is it possible to skim these readings and retain much understanding. Rather, the readings are often similar to what you would expect from a philosophy course: a series of arguments you must closely follow. This means you should set aside ample time *before* class to read the material listed on the syllabus for that day, as you will likely find that you need to *re-read* parts of the text. You should also be an active reader. As you read, write a few words summarizing each paragraph in the margins, underline/highlight any phrases or passages that stand out to you, look up the definitions of unfamiliar words, write down any questions or reactions you have in response to the arguments the author is making, etc.

4. Students must practice “sympathetic” reading.

While “critical thinking” is valuable, before we can think “critically” we need to ensure that we have understood the text properly and given the arguments fair consideration. The practice of “sympathetic” reading, which entails approaching each text as though it were a friend, will therefore be encouraged throughout the term. Each class session, I will push you to think “sympathetically” about the text by taking on the voice of the author in defense of the arguments. This means at times I will appear to adopt some unsavory positions. If you are uncomfortable with teachers who play “devil’s advocate,” or don’t like it when teachers sometimes withhold their own opinions in an effort to get you to think for yourself, then you probably will not enjoy this class.

5. Students must be pro-active with their education.

With many students and limited class time, not every question will be satisfactorily addressed for every student. If you find yourself confused about anything, first try re-reading the syllabus or assigned reading. If you are still lost, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me during office hours or send me an email.

Required Texts

The following books are available for purchase at the FAU Bookstore. **I highly recommend that you purchase paper copies of these exact editions.** Throughout each class session, you will be asked to turn to specific pages in the book. If you do not have the same edition or cannot easily turn to a given page, you will be lost and unable to contribute as effectively. Keep in mind that copies of each book will be available on 24-hour reserve at the FAU library.

Alfarabi. *The Political Writings, Volume II: “Political Regime” and “Summary of Plato’s Laws.”* Trans. Charles E. Butterworth. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2020. ISBN: 978-1501746796.

Fanon, Frantz. *The Wretched of the Earth.* Trans. Richard Philcox. Reprint ed. New York: Grove Press, 2005. ISBN: 978-0802141323.

Hinton, David, trans. *The Four Chinese Classics: Tao Te Ching, Chuang Tzu, Analects, Mencius.* Berkeley: Counterpoint, 2016. ISBN: 978-1619028340.

Kautilya. *The Arthashastra: Selections from the Classic Indian Work on Statecraft.* Eds. and trans. Mark McClish and Patrick Olivelle. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 2012. ISBN: 978-1603848480.

Course Requirements

Attendance:	20%
Reflection Paper:	10%
Discussion Board:	15%
Midterm Exam:	25%
Final Exam:	30%

Attendance (20%)

I will take attendance each time we meet. Everyone is permitted *one unexcused absence* and *two excused absences*. **Excused absences require make up work, which is due within a week of the**

absence. For an absence to be excused, you must clear it with me in advance or, in cases of illness or emergency, as soon as possible. The following generally count as *unexcused* absences: slept through alarm; need to study/work; need to finish an assignment; leaving early/arriving back late from vacation; bad hangover.

If you think you will miss more than three classes due to University-approved activities, please see me at the start of the semester. Please note I will abide by *FAU's official attendance policy*: “Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student’s responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student’s final course grade as a direct result of such absence.”

Reflection Paper (10%)

This assignment consists of a 3-4 page (double-spaced) paper comparing *two* political texts of your choice from among the readings assigned in this course. The paper should focus on a specific area of disagreement between these texts, highlighting how each offers a different answer to a fundamental question in political theory. The paper should also demonstrate thoughtfulness in terms of its approach to comparative political theory. Further instructions will be posted on Canvas and discussed in class.

Discussion Board (15%)

By its nature, this course material tends to encourage thought-provoking ideas that often leave students wanting more time for dialogue. With this in mind, I have set up a discussion board on Canvas. To encourage broad participation, you will be required to write **four** posts: one “leader post” (worth 6 points) and three “response posts” (worth 3 points each). At the beginning of each course section, you will sign up for days to complete a “leader” post and a “response” post (note that you cannot do both posts on the same day). Further instructions will be posted on Canvas and discussed in class.

Exams (55%)

Two exams will be administered to test your knowledge of and ability to analyze course material. The midterm will cover material from the first two sections of the course. The final exam will be cumulative, but will stress material from the third and fourth sections of the course. Each test will contain a mixture of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. A review sheet will be distributed and discussed in class prior to each exam.

Grading Policies

- *Exams*: Make up exams will be administered only for university-approved absences (see attendance policy above), and in all but the most extraordinary of circumstances must be taken within 48 hours of the original exam at a time designated by the instructor. Note that I reserve the right to administer a different version of the exam.

- *Discussion board posts:* Discussion board posts are due within 24 hours of the end of the class session (*i.e.*, by 7PM the following day). Late posts will be penalized 5% if less than an hour late. Beyond an hour late (even by a single minute), posts will be penalized 10% per every 24-hour period late. This means that your post will not be accepted for any credit if it is 10 or more days late. The best way to avoid a late penalty is to make sure to submit your work well ahead of the deadline.
- *Essays:* Essays are due at the beginning of class on the date listed. You must submit **both** a hard copy and an electronic copy. Late papers will be penalized 5% if less than an hour late. Beyond an hour late (even by a single minute), papers will be penalized 10% per every 24-hour period late. This means that your paper will not be accepted for any credit if it is 10 or more days late. The best way to avoid a late penalty is to make sure to submit your work well ahead of the deadline. **Note that copy-editing and revision are integral parts of the writing process. Papers that show an unacceptably high level of error or carelessness (for instance, five or more errors in a paragraph) will be returned for you to proofread before resubmitting them. You will have five business days to edit the paper and to resubmit it with an automatic penalty of 10%. After five days, the grade on the paper will automatically drop to an F.**
- *Graded Work:* I will not discuss grades on any assignments for 24 hours after they have been returned. If, after 24 hours reflection, you do not understand why you received a particular grade, send me a written memo via email and I will respond as soon as possible.
- *Extra Credit:* You can receive a 1% bump to your final course grade (which can mean the difference between an “A” and an “A-”) by scheduling an office hour visit to discuss the material with me. To receive the extra credit, you must: (1) prepare a few questions or passages you want to discuss and (2) complete the visit **before the start of the final exam (by 10:30AM on Tues., Dec. 14th)**. You can only receive the extra credit points once, though additional office hour visits can help to supplement your participation grade.

Grading Scale

A = 94-100	A- = 91-93.99	B+ = 87-90.99	B = 83-86.99
B- = 80-82.99	C+ = 77-79.99	C = 73-76.99	C- = 70-72.99
D+ = 67-69.99	D = 63-66.99	D- = 60-62.99	F = below 60

Honor Code Violations

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see http://wise.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/Reg_4.001_5-26-10_FINAL.pdf.

Please note that I take plagiarism very seriously. If I catch you plagiarizing on an assignment, you will receive an automatic “F” in the course and will be reported to the university, which will likely

result in a permanent honor violation notation on your transcript. So that we are all on the same page, here is the university’s definition of plagiarism (found in the document linked above):

- “1. The presentation of words from any other source or another person as one’s own without proper quotation and citation.
2. Putting someone else’s ideas or facts into your own words (paraphrasing) without proper citation.
3. Turning in someone else’s work as one’s own, including the buying and selling of term papers or assignments.” (FAU Code of Academic Integrity, 2.B)

Disabilities

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU’s campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas/. If you require a special accommodation, please make an appointment at the beginning of the semester to discuss the accommodation with me.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAP) Center

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>.

Course Schedule

(CV) = reading on Canvas

Section I: What Is Global/Comparative Political Theory?

Date	Topic	Readings	Deadlines
24-Aug	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Recommended</i>: Plato’s cave allegory (CV) 	
26-Aug	Toward a Global Political Theory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fred Dallmayr, “Beyond Monologue: For a Comparative Political Theory,” <i>Perspectives on Politics</i> 2.2 (2004): 249-257 (CV) • Susan McWilliams, “Introduction: Points of Departure,” in <i>Traveling Back</i>: 	

		<i>Toward a Global Political Theory</i> , pp. 1-24 (CV)	
31-Aug	<i>Theoria</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roxanne Euben, "Traveling Theorists and Translating Practices: Theory and <i>Theoria</i>," in <i>Journeys to the Other Shore: Muslim and Western Travelers in Search of Knowledge</i>, pp. 20-45 (CV) 	
02-Sep	Why Comparative Political Theory (CPT)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eric Voegelin, "Equivalences of Experience and Symbolization in History," in <i>The Collected Works of Eric Voegelin</i>, Vol. 12, pp. 115-133 (CV) Melissa S. Williams & Mark E. Warren, "A Democratic Case for Comparative Political Theory," <i>Political Theory</i> 42.1 (2014): 26-57 (CV) 	
07-Sep	What Is CPT?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Freeden & Andrew Vincent, "Introduction: the Study of Comparative Political Thought," in <i>Comparative Political Thought: Theorizing Practices</i>, pp. 1-23 (CV) Diego von Vacano, "The Scope of Comparative Political Theory," <i>Annual Review of Political Science</i> 18 (2015): 465-480 (CV) 	
09-Sep	What Is CPT?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrew March, "What Is Comparative Political Theory?" <i>Review of Politics</i> 71 (2009): 531-565 (CV) Farah Godrej, "Response to 'What Is Comparative Political Theory?'" <i>Review of Politics</i> 71 (2009): 567-582 (CV) 	
14-Sep	Methods of CPT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fareh Godrej, "Towards a Cosmopolitan Political Thought: The Hermeneutics of Interpreting the 'Other'" <i>Polity</i> 41.2 (2009): 135-165 (CV) Leigh Kathryn Jenco, "'What Does Heaven Ever Say?' A Methods-Centered Approach to Cross-Cultural Engagement," <i>American Political Science Review</i> 101.4 (2007): 741-755 (CV) 	
16-Sep	Methods of CPT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brooke Ackerly and Rochana Bajpai, "Comparative Political Thought," in <i>Methods in Analytical Political Theory</i>, pp. 270-296 (CV) 	

Section II: What Is Justice?

Date	Topic	Readings	Deadlines
21-Sep	Domestic Justice (Western PT)	• Rawls, <i>Justice as Fairness: A Restatement</i> excerpt (CV)	
23-Sep	Domestic Justice (Confucianism)	• “The Analects,” in <i>Four Chinese Classics</i>	
28-Sep	Domestic Justice (Confucianism)	• “The Analects,” in <i>Four Chinese Classics</i>	
30-Sep	Domestic Justice (Confucianism)	• “Mencius” in <i>Four Chinese Classics</i>	
05-Oct	Global Justice (Western PT)	• Kant, <i>A Perpetual Peace</i> (CV)	
07-Oct	Global Justice (Buddhism)	• Theresa Der-Ian Yeh, “The Way to Peace: A Buddhist Perspective,” <i>International Journal of Peace Studies</i> 11.1 (2006): 91-112 (CV)	

Section III: How Should We Be Governed?

Date	Topic	Readings	Deadlines
12-Oct	Midterm	Midterm Exam	
14-Oct	The Ideal Polity (Western PT)	• Plato, <i>Republic</i> , excerpt (CV)	
19-Oct	The Ideal Polity (Western PT)	• Plato, <i>Republic</i> , excerpt (CV)	
21-Oct	The Ideal Polity (Islamic PT)	• Al-Farabi, “Political Regime,” in <i>The Political Writings, Volume II</i>	
26-Oct	The Ideal Polity (Islamic PT)	• Al-Farabi, “Political Regime,” in <i>The Political Writings, Volume II</i>	
28-Oct	Guidelines for Ruling (Western PT)	• Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i> , excerpt (CV)	
02-Nov	Guidelines for Ruling (Indian PT)	• Kautilya, <i>Arthashastra</i>	
04-Nov	Guidelines for Ruling (Indian PT)	• Kautilya, <i>Arthashastra</i>	

Section IV: How Should We *Not* Be Governed?

Date	Topic	Readings	Deadlines
09-Nov	Critique of Modern Rule (Western PT)	• Rousseau, <i>Second Discourse</i> excerpt (CV)	
11-Nov	<i>No Classes</i>	<i>Veteran’s Day</i>	

16-Nov	Critique of Modern Rule (African PT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Césaire, <i>Discourse on Colonialism</i> excerpt (CV) • Frantz Fanon, <i>Wretched of the Earth</i> 	
18-Nov	Critique of Modern Rule (African PT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frantz Fanon, <i>Wretched of the Earth</i> 	
23-Nov	Critique of Modern Rule (African PT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frantz Fanon, <i>Wretched of the Earth</i> 	
25-Nov	<i>No Classes</i>	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>	
30-Nov	Critique of Modern Rule (Middle Eastern PT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward Said, <i>Orientalism</i> excerpt (CV) 	
02-Dec	Critique of Modern Rule (Latin American PT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, <i>Facundo: Civilization and Barbarism</i> excerpt (CV) 	Reflection Paper
14-Dec, 10:30AM -1:00PM	Concluding Remarks	Final Exam	