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PSC 250E.01: Political Theory

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REQUIRED TEXT: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, *Great Political Thinkers*.

READING ASSIGNMENTS, LECTURE TOPICS, AND EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

- Week of January 16: Introductory lecture and Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 18-49 (Plato).
- Week of January 23: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 50-80 (Plato).
- Week of January 30: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 81-126 (Aristotle), pp. 144-154 Cicero).
- Week of February 6 Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 191-223 (The Judeo-Christian Background & St. Augustine).
FIRST EXAMINATION ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10
- Week of February 13: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 316-336 (Machievelli), pp. 397-406 (Hobbes).
- Week of February 20: Ebenstein & Ebenstein pp. 407-424 (Hobbes).
- Week of February 27: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 425-454 (Locke).
- Week of March 6: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 493-527, (Rousseau).
- Week of March 20: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 562-593 (Burke). Review for second examination.
SECOND EXAMINATION: FRIDAY, MARCH 24.
- Week of March 27: Lecture on Mary Wollstonecraft's "A Vindication of the Rights of Man." Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 471-492, (Hume).
- Week of April 3: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 650-684 (Mill).
- Week of April 10: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 726-773 (Marx and Lenin).
- Week of April 17: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 796-805 (Mussolini), 533-546 (Kant).
- Week of April 24: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 889-897 (Myrdal), pp. 922-944 (Rawls).

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Week of May 1: Summary Lecture. Review for Final Examination. FINAL EXAMINATION; 10:10-12:10 TUESDAY, MAY 9.

NOTE: EXAMINATIONS COVER MATERIAL FROM LECTURES AS WELL AS MATERIAL FROM READING ASSIGNMENTS.

THE CLASSROOM LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Wherever the learning process takes place (for example, in the library or the seclusion of one's study) it does so best when there are a minimum of distractions. This requirement poses special challenges for the learning that takes place in the lecture hall or the classroom, where the possibility of distractions is the greatest.

In order to establish and maintain a supportive learning environment for my students, I will not tolerate the few individuals who might be prone to a) come to class late or leave early, b) carry on private conversations during class, or c) use the lecture hall/classroom as an opportunity to read material, such as the Kaimin, that is not relevant to the subject matter under consideration.

The only exception to these conditions concern students whose work schedules or unanticipated appointments require them to arrive for class late or leave early. In these instances I would appreciate knowing of the circumstance before it occurs and, in all such instances, request that students do so as unobtrusively as possible. Thank you.