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PSC 150E.02: Introduction to Political Theory

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POLITICAL SCIENCE 150E, SECTION 2
POLITICAL THEORY

PROFESSOR: PERRIN
SPRING, 2003

REQUIRED TEXTS: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, *Great Political Thinkers*.
Hannah Arendt, *Between Past and Future*

READING ASSIGNMENTS, LECTURE TOPICS, AND EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

- Week of January 27: Introductory lecture and Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 3-74. (The politics of Ancient Greece; Plato).
- Week of February 3: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 75-115. (Aristotle).
- Week of February 10: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 131-150, 173-181. (The politics of the Roman Empire; Cicero; Judaism and Christianity).
- Week of February 17: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 181-198. (St. Augustine).
Friday: Discussion and Review.
- Week of February 24: Monday: FIRST EXAMINATION.
Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 283-290. (Machiavelli).
- Week of March 3: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 291-301, pp. 355-366. (Machiavelli; Civil War in England; Thomas Hobbes).
- Week of March 10: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 366-388, Thomas Hobbes; The Glorious Revolution of 1688; John Locke).
- Week of March 17: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 388-407. (John Locke; Locke, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison).
- Week of March 24: SPRING BREAK
- Week of March 31: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 442-476. (The French Revolution; Jean-Jacques Rousseau).
- Week of April 7: Monday: Discussion and review.
Wednesday: SECOND EXAMINATION.
Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 557-577. (Tocqueville).
- Week of April 14: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 578-614. (Tocqueville; John Stuart Mill).

Week of April 21: Ebenstein & Ebenstein, pp. 615-621, 656-679.
(Mill: Karl Marx).

Week of April 28: Arendt, Chapters One, Three, and Four.
Monday: "Tradition and the Modern Age"
Wednesday: "What is Authority?"
Friday: "What is Freedom?"

Week of May 5: Arendt, Chapters Six and Seven.
Monday: "The Crisis in Culture"
Wednesday: "Truth and Politics"
Friday: Discussion and Review for Final Examination.

FINAL EXAMINATION: 10:10-12:10, FRIDAY, MAY 16.

NOTES

1. THE THREE EXAMINATIONS WILL ADDRESS MATERIAL FROM THE LECTURES AS WELL AS MATERIAL FROM READING ASSIGNMENTS.
2. MARCH 10 IS THE LAST DAY TO DROP A COURSE OR CHANGE THE GRADING OPTION.
3. PROFESSOR PERRIN'S OFFICE IS IN LA 156. REGULAR OFFICE HOURS ARE 8:30-9:30 A.M., MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY. STUDENTS WHO DO NOT FIND THESE TIMES CONVENIENT ARE ENCOURAGED TO SCHEDULE OTHER APPOINTMENTS.