

Political Science 120: Ideology and Politics

Fall 2009, Thursday 5.30pm – 8.20pm

Room: AB A354

Dr. R.K. Dhamoon

Telephone: 604 504 4173

Email: Rita.Dhamoon@ufv.ca

Office: (AB) D3093

Office Hours: Thursday's 1pm – 2.15pm, or by appointment.

Course Description

Political ideologies have persisted through modern history. Ideas are often the most potent forces of the political world in that they provide justifications for political activity and collective action. In different ways and at different moments in time and across geo-political boundaries, ideologies have raised hopes, inspired fear, and shaped social struggles. The study of major ideologies and their philosophical underpinnings sheds light on historical and current events. This course introduces you to a wide range of thinkers and ideas that have shaped our world. Through the study of the ideological visions of liberalism, conservatism, Marxism, socialism, fascism, nationalism, feminism, anti-colonialism, anarchism, and environmentalism, we will explore theories of power, government, freedom, and liberation.

The course consists of a combination of lectures, readings, and class-based discussions. Each week you will be required to attend the lecture and keep up with the required readings.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to correct, change or modify the syllabus as the course progresses.

Course Objectives

1. To introduce students to key ideas and key thinkers of the major ideologies in western political thought.
2. To stimulate interest in historical and current events shaped by differing ideological visions.
3. To develop and foster analytical writing and critical thinking skills.

Required Text and Course Package

1. Terrance Ball and Richard Dagger, *Ideals and Ideologies: A Reader*, Seventh Edition (Toronto: Pearson Longman, 2009). This text provides you with the writings of key thinkers across various traditions as well as information about the political context in which they wrote. (I & I).
2. A *required course package* (CP) is also available in the University bookstore. It provides a collection of articles and chapters put together specifically for this course.

Assessment

Students will be assessed in the following ways:

1. 3 position papers 45% (15% each)
2. Midterm 20%
3. Final Examination 35%

3 Position Papers 45% (15% per paper): At the end of most of the classes you will be provided with one or more questions dealing with the topic of that class. You must choose three of these questions through the term (each from a different class), each worth 15% of your total mark. If you wish, you can submit 4 position papers and your grade will be based on your best 3 submissions. The position papers will be due at the beginning of the following class. The purpose of this assignment is to encourage you to keep up with the readings; take notes on what you read; and help you develop excellent reading comprehension skills.

PLEASE NOTE: A writing workshop will be held early in the course. You are expected to attend, and indeed it is your benefit to attend as the workshop will be geared to this particular assignment.

Requirements for position papers:

- Each paper should be 500-750 words (2-3 pages, plus footnotes and bibliography). Papers beyond the limit will be penalized.
- All papers must have at least three properly introduced and explained quotations from the assigned texts. **5% will be deducted from the paper when this requirement is not met.**
- All papers must have a proper introduction, body and conclusion.
- The paper should include proper footnotes and bibliography. You must use the APA style of referencing.
- The purpose of the assignment is to provide a careful and thoughtful analysis of the assigned readings. Research beyond the required readings is allowed but not required. Proper sources for your essay include your textbook, the course package, academic library texts, and academic journal articles. You may use information found on the internet but be careful about the source of information, and be certain to make specific reference to the URL in your footnote. Web sources such as those like Wikipedia are not acceptable. Journal articles found on the internet are NOT counted as web sources.
- All papers must demonstrate serious engagement with the assigned readings – **merely re-writing class notes will not be sufficient.**
- Papers should be double spaced, with a standard 12 point font and one inch margins.
- Staple your paper in the top left corner only; no bindings please.
- Include a cover page with your name, student number and title of paper.
- Include page numbers, with the first page of text numbered page 1.
- You are required to keep a copy of your essay. If your assignment is lost or misplaced, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy upon request.

You will be assessed on the following:

1. A clearly stated thesis – what are you trying to demonstrate or prove.
2. Argument to support your thesis:
 - analysis of the subject matter and not just a description
 - proper structure and logical order
 - leave out irrelevant material
3. Effective use of resources and quotations (remember, 5% will be deducted if three quotations are not used and explained).
4. Organization and Style
 - Paper is well written (i.e. good construction of paragraphs, essays concludes and does not just end)
 - Mechanics (i.e. spelling, punctuation, grammar etc.).

Midterm (20%): The mid-term exam will consist of multiple choice questions. All questions will be based on the textbook readings, course package readings, and lectures. The midterm exam will cover all material from week 1 to week 6. It will be held on October 22. The purpose of this exam is to ensure that you have reasonable familiarity with the material covered thus far.

Final Examination (35%): The final exam will be scheduled by the University. It will be 2 hours in length, and will cover material covered in the entire course (i.e. textbook readings, course reading package and lectures). You are required to take the final exam as scheduled.

Lecture Topics and Readings

1. **September 10** **Introduction & Key Terms**
I & I chapter 1 Carver, 'Ideology: The Career of a Concept'
(CP 1) Ball et. al. 'Ideology and Ideologies'
2. **September 17** **Early Liberal Thought**
I & I chapter 11 Hobbes, 'The State of Nature and the Basis of Obligation'
I & I chapter 12 Locke, 'Toleration and Government'
I & I chapter 16 Smith, 'Private Profit, Public Good'
(CP 2) Arneil, 'Trade, Plantations, and Property: John Locke and the Economic Defence of Colonialism'.
3. **September 24** **Liberalism Continued**
I & I chapter 18 Mill, 'Liberty and Individuality'
I & I chapter 20 Green, 'Liberalism and Positive Freedom'
I & I chapter 51 Wollstonecraft, 'A Vindication of the Rights of Woman'
(CP 3) Trudeau & Marshall, 'Should individual rights take precedence over collective rights?'
4. **October 1** **WRITING CENTRE & The ideology of Conservatism**
I & I chapter 24 Burke, 'Society, Reverence, and the True Natural Aristocracy'
I & I chapter 28 Oakeshott, 'On Being Conservative'
(CP 4), Guy, 'Conservative Parties'
5. **October 8** **Socialism and Communism – To Marx**
I & I chapter 34 Owen, 'Address to the Inhabitants of New Lanark'
I & I chapter 35 Marx & Engels, 'The Communist Manifesto'
I & I chapter 36 Marx, 'On the Materialist Conception of History'
6. **October 15** **Socialism and Communism after Marx**
I & I chapter 37 Bernstein, 'Evolutionary Socialism'
I & I chapter 38 Lenin, 'Revisionism, Imperialism, and Revolution'
(CP 5) Mohanty, 'Women workers and Capitalist Scripts'
7. **October 22** **MIDTERM**
8. **October 29** **Fascism & Nationalism**
I & I chapter 46 Mussolini, 'The Doctrine of Fascism'
(CP 6) Couture and Kermoal, 'The Multiple Affiliations of Quebec'.
9. **November 5** **Liberation Ideologies I: Feminism**
I & I chapter 55 Frye, 'Oppression'
(CP 7) hooks, 'Theory as Liberatory Practice' & 'Feminist Scholarship'
(CP 8) Smith, 'Indigenous feminism without apology'
(CP 9) Smith, 'Heteropatriarchy and the Three Pillars of White Supremacy'

- 10. November 12** **Liberation Ideologies II: Anti-Colonial Ideologies**
I & I chapter 57 Alfred, 'Indigenous Pathways of Action and Freedom'
(CP 20) Fanon, 'On National Culture'
- 11. November 19** **Liberation Ideologies III: Anarchism & Environmentalism**
I & I chapter 42 Goldman, 'Anarchism: What it really stands for'
I & I chapter 63 Shiva, 'Women in Nature'
- 12. November 26** **The End of Ideology? Or Religion and a New Ideological Era?**
(CP 11) Fukuyama, 'The End of History'
(CP 12) Ali, 'A Clash of fundamentalisms'
- 13. December 3** **Revisiting the Political Compass & Preparing for the Exam**

Course Policies (*Please read the following notes very carefully before week 2*)

- Your marked assignments will be returned to you in a timely fashion.
- If you are unsure how to document your work or if you have any questions about the lectures, readings, and issues discussed in class or assignment expectations, *please come and see me*. I will do my utmost to respond promptly to your concerns.
- All assignments should be handed to me *at the start of class*.
- I will be using power point during the lectures. These are outlines and not adequate for study or research purposes alone. The lectures and readings are essential aspects of the course. You do not need to copy down every word on these slides.
- Late essays will be penalized 2.5% per day (including weekends). Essay extensions will be granted only in cases of illness or personal tragedy and not because of academic or employment conflicts or workload. All extensions will require a note from a doctor or another authority that can vouch for your circumstances. Extensions will **NOT** be given in the event of computer problems or software incompatibility.
- Assignments submitted 7 days after the due deadline will not be marked, unless an extension has been granted in writing by the instructor.
- Electronic etiquette in the classroom: All cell phones are to be turned off at the start of class, except with the permission of the instructor in the event of emergency situations. Please do not text messages or check your voice mail during lectures; do not use your laptop in class unless it is directly required for the course; and do not listen to portable music players in class. Students who fail to abide by these rules will be asked to leave the class.
- Students will be excused from exams only in the instance of illness or a grave family emergency. In such cases, make up exams will be scheduled, as long as a doctor's note is provided. Absences from exams will not be permitted for any other reason, including work conflicts.
- You must be available to write the final exam in the allotted slot at the end of term. Do not make any other commitments until the university has announced the final exam schedule. Conflicts with other exams must be brought to the attention of the instructor by the last class.
- Please be aware that academic and personal support is available from various units at UFV including Aboriginal Access Services, Disability Services, and Student Services. Information can be found on the web.
- All cases of cheating will be reported to the Director of Student Services and a grade of zero will be awarded for the assignment. Please consult the University policy.
- Plagiarism occurs when paragraphs, phrases, sentences or ideas within the work are taken from another source without referencing or citing the author. Make sure you reference or cite work by someone else! UFV's policy regarding Student Conduct and Plagiarism can be viewed at www.ucfv.ca/studentaffairs.htm.
- Test and assignment grades may be appealed. See the university policy manual for appeal process. The grading process will start anew. It is possible that the revised grade will be lower than the original; the second grade will be final.
- Any changes to your status in the course after final withdraw dates must be made through the Office of Student Services. Please be aware of official withdrawal dates.
- Please be advised that I will not discuss the course or your performance in the course with your parents or any other advocates.

Guidelines for Grading

A+ = 90%+ A = 85-89% A- = 80-84%	EXCELLENT	Evidence of original thought, and exceptional writing skills (i.e. superior composition and no grammatical errors or typos)
B+ = 77-79% B = 73-76% B- = 70-72%	GOOD	Mastery of material and solid writing skills (i.e. good syntax and no more than one or two typos)
C+ = 67-69% C = 63-66% C- = 60-62%	SATISFACTORY*	Clear understanding of material and adequate writing skills (less than five typos, grammatical errors and or awkward sentences)
P = 50-59%	UNSATISFACTORY	Limited understanding of material and/or deficient writing skills (i.e. awkward syntax and or frequent errors)
F = below 50%	INADEQUATE	Misunderstanding of material and or unacceptable writing skills (i.e. terrible syntax and copious errors)

***NOTE:** The UCFV calendar describes grades in the C range as “average.”

The conversion of numeric grades to letter grades at the end of the course will also be made according to this chart.

The UFV WRITING CENTRE

www.ucfv.ca/writing_centre

University of the Fraser Valley students who would like to become more effective writers are welcome to visit the Writing Centres located on the Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Mission campuses.

Writing Centre staff can help you understand, and take pleasure in practicing, many aspects of academic and professional writing: developing ideas and purposes, understanding audiences, organizing material into appropriate forms, understanding the role and practice of research, understanding conventions of citation, and understanding the processes involved in writing.

Open to All University-level Students

Students from all college-level courses and programmes at all levels of writing ability and experience are welcome to use the Centres. Students use the Centres voluntarily, and Centre staff will ask you to let us know how we can help you with your writing.

Staff and Resources

Writing Centre instructors and faculty from a range of disciplines help you develop your strengths as writers and act as constructive, expert readers for your writing. The Centre offers one-on-one consultations, workshops, and small-group sessions. Additional resources include handouts, sample papers, books on writing, and word processors.

Help With Assignments

If you would like help with a specific writing assignment, take your draft or drafts and your assignment instructions to the Centre; you are welcome to visit the Centre at any point in the writing process: brainstorming, planning, drafting, and revising. As the writer, responsibility for the assignment always remains with you. Centre staff will work with you to improve your writing but will neither guarantee you a good mark nor proof read nor edit your assignment.

Book an Appointment or Drop In

The Centres are open every weekday in Abbotsford (Library Building, Room G168); Monday to Thursday in Chilliwack (Room A205); and Tuesdays and Thursdays in Mission (Room D226A). In order to guarantee that someone is available to work with you, it is necessary to make an appointment. Appointment schedules are posted on Centre doors. You are also welcome to use the Centres on a drop-in basis, and if the staff is available they will be more than happy to work with you. Please remember, though, that drop-in appointments cannot be guaranteed; it is always best to book an appointment in order to avoid disappointment.