

PHL265F Introduction to Political Philosophy (2013-2014)
(preliminary version only, official syllabus to be distributed in class)

MW 10:00-11:00 / MB128

Professor Joseph Heath

From classical to contemporary liberalism: This course will constitute an introduction to the history of liberal thought, along with its signature doctrines of individual rights, egalitarian civil relations and democratic governance. We begin with the attack on medieval political ideas and the rise of social contract theory from the 17th century through to the French Revolution. We then trace out the long-term decline of liberal political philosophy during the 19th century, culminating in the near-triumph of fascism and communism. We will conclude by examining the dramatic re-emergence of liberalism as a dominant political ideology in the late 20th century.

Required Reading (books available at UofT Bookstore)

- Dante, *Monarchy* (selections, on course website)
- Hobbes, *Leviathan Parts I and II* (Broadview)
- Locke, *Second Treatise of Government* (Hackett)
- Kant, *Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals* (Broadview)
- Rawls, *A Theory of Justice* (selections, on course website).

Evaluation:

- Midterm writing assignment (30%), 2000 words, due Oct. 23.
- Final writing assignment (30%), 2000 words, due Dec. 4.
- Two hour faculty final exam (30%).
- Tutorial attendance and participation (10%)

Syllabus:

1.1 Introduction	(Sept. 9)
1.2 More introduction	(Sept. 11)
2.1 Dante part 1	(Sept. 16)
2.2 Dante	(Sept. 18)
3.1 Dante	(Sept. 23)
3.2 Hobbes ch. 1-5	(Sept. 25)
4.1 Hobbes ch. 6-10	(Sept. 30)
4.2 Hobbes ch. 13	(Oct. 2)
5.1 Hobbes ch. 14-21	(Oct. 7)
5.2 Hobbes	(Oct. 9)

6.2 Hobbes	(Oct. 16)
7.1 Locke	(Oct. 21)
7.2 Locke ch. 7-11	(Oct. 23)*
8.1 Locke ch. 15-19	(Oct. 28)
8.2 Locke	(Oct. 30)
9.1 Kant part 1	(Nov. 4)
9.2 Kant	(Nov. 6)
10.2 Kant part 2	(Nov. 13)
11.1 Kant	(Nov. 18)
11.2 Rawls §§1-4	(Nov. 20)
12.1 Rawls	(Nov. 25)
12.2 Rawls §§9-17	(Nov. 27)
13.1 Rawls	(Dec. 2)
13.2 Review	(Dec. 4)*

Contact Info

Office hours: MW 11-12.

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The Small Print

Any assignment handed in late (i.e. after 5pm on the due date) without medical excuse will be penalized by one grade fragment (about 3%) per day late. In order for your excuse to be considered, you must register a Declaration of Absence on ROSI. Late assignments can be submitted in the PHL265 drop box at the philosophy department, 170 St. George St., 5th floor. Hard copy only, submissions will not be accepted by email. Plagiarism (“to represent as one’s own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another”) will not be tolerated, and any suspected cases will be submitted to OSAI for investigation without exception. Response to email will be at the instructor or TA’s discretion; for official communication you must see the instructor or your TA in person, either in class, during tutorial session, or during office hours.