

## Classics of Social and Political Thought, I

Social Sciences (SOSC) 15301 – Sections 5

University of Chicago

Autumn Quarter 2008

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### Course Meetings:

Tues/Thurs, 10:30a–11:50a

Pick Hall, Room 506

Website: <http://chalk.uchicago.edu/>

Instructor: Andrew Dilts

Office: Gates-Blake 317

Office Hours: Weds, 10:00a-12:00a

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### Course Requirements:

(1) This is a writing intensive class. You will submit **four papers** throughout the quarter, three of which will count towards your final grade.

(2) Regular class **attendance** and **participation**. You are required to post a prepared question about the day's reading on the Chalk discussion board by midnight before each class session. Be prepared to present your question at the beginning of class. If there is a conflict between course participation and religious observance, please contact me in advance.

### Paper Submission: Papers will be submitted *via e-mail*.

- Papers should be attached in either PDF, RTF, Microsoft Word, or OpenOffice formats.
- Send your paper from your uchicago.edu account (so that it won't get flagged as "junk" mail by U of C's system).
- Once I confirm that I can open and read your paper, I will respond via email to let you know that I've received your paper. **UNTIL YOU GET THIS CONFIRMATION EMAIL, YOU SHOULD ASSUME THAT I DO NOT HAVE YOUR PAPER.**
- Detailed formatting standards will be distributed separately. You must adhere to these formatting standards to receive full credit for your paper.

**Late Paper Policy:** Except in documented cases of illness or emergency, late papers will be penalized by 5 percentage points per day. However, each student may, at his or her discretion, take a 24-hour extension for *one* of the papers, no questions asked (If you are using your extension please indicate this on the first page of your paper). Should you find yourself in the position that you have to turn in work late, stay in touch with me! I don't really care *why* your work is late (we're all adults here), but you are always better off keeping me posted on what is going on. **NOTE: The final paper will not be accepted late.**

**Daily Discussion Questions:** In order to prepare for each class discussion, you will post a reading question to the appropriate section of the Chalk Discussion Board by midnight before class so that everyone who wishes to will have a chance to look over the questions before class. We will use these questions as the basis for our discussion agenda. Be prepared to present your question in class.

A good reading question is one that directly and explicitly engages the text. Your question should cite the appropriate passage, term, or concept that you are puzzled about, as well as offer your interpretation of the passage at hand. It should be focused on something that genuinely puzzles you in the reading, and which you can probably assume that others find puzzling or confusing as well.

**Grades:** The paper with the lowest score will be automatically dropped from your final grade for the course. The remaining three papers will be worth 30% of your final grade; attendance and participation make up the remaining 10%. *Any student who receives a failing grade for attendance and participation will receive a failing grade for the class. Any student who has not turned in all four papers will receive a failing grade for the class.*

**Plagiarism:** If you think that you need to plagiarize, please come see me. If you think you can get away with it, you are wrong. *Proven plagiarism of any kind may result in automatic failure of the course, and will be referred to the University for further disciplinary action. I reserve the right to submit your electronic document to plagiarism detection websites if necessary.*

### **Required Texts:**

These texts will all be available for purchase from the Seminary Co-Op Bookstore. *Please use these editions of the texts, so that we are all literally on the same page during class.*

You will be expected to come to class with the text in hand.

- Plato, *The Republic*, trans. Bloom (Basic Books, 1991)
- Aristotle, *The Politics*, trans. Barker/Stalley (Oxford World Classics, 1994)
- Thomas Aquinas, *On Law, Morality, and Politics*, trans. & ed. Baumgarth & Regan, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Hackett, 2003)
- Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*, trans. Mansfield, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (U of Chicago Press, 1998)

### **Reading Schedule:**

- 1.1. Tues, Sept. 30: Introduction (no reading assignment)
- 1.2. Thur, Oct. 2: *Republic*, Book I (pp. 3-34)
- 2.1. Tues, Oct. 7: *Republic*, Books II & III (pp. 35-96)
- 2.2. Thur, Oct. 9: *Republic*, Book IV to Book V 471e (pp. 97-152)
- 3.1. Tues, Oct. 14: *Republic*, Book V 471e to Book VII 531c (pp. 152-211)
- 3.2. Thur, Oct. 16: *Republic*, Book VII 531d to Book IX 576b (pp. 211-256)
- 4.1. Tues, Oct. 21: *Republic*, Book IX 576b to end of Book X (pp. 256-303)
- 4.2. Thur, Oct. 23: Aristotle's *Politics* Book I; Book II chaps. 1-5, 7-8

**1<sup>st</sup> Paper Due – Fri, Oct. 24 by 5:00pm**

- 5.1. Tues, Oct. 28: *Politics*, Book III
- 5.2. Thur, Oct. 30: *Politics*, Book IV chaps. 1-12; Book V chaps. 1, 5-9; Book VI chap. 5
- 6.1. Tues, Nov. 4: *Politics*, Book VII chaps. 1-5, 7, 9-10, 13-15; Book VIII chap. 1
- 6.2. Thur, Nov. 6: Alfarabi's *The Enumeration of the Sciences and The Political Regime* (e-reserve)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Paper Due – Fri, Nov. 7 by 5:00pm**

- 7.1. Tues, Nov. 11: Alfarabi's *The Attainment of Happiness* (e-reserve)
- 7.2. Thur, Nov. 13: Aquinas (all selections from *On Law, Morality, and Politics*)  
*Summa Theologica* I-II Questions 90-95 (pp. 10-59)
- 8.1. Tues, Nov. 18: Aquinas, continued  
*Summa Theologica* I-II Q. 96-97 (pp. 59-75); Q. 100 A. 1, 2, 8-9 (pp. 76-79, 81-86); Q. 105 A. 1 (pp. 93-96); II-II Q. 57 A. 2 (pp. 100-101); Q. 58 A. 2 (pp. 107-108); Q. 40 A. 1 (pp. 164-67); Q. 104 A. 5-6 (pp. 182-85); Q. 42 A. 2 (pp. 188-89); Q. 10 A. 8, 11, Q. 11 A. 3, Commentary on the Sentences Distinctions 44, 37 (pp. 190-96); On Kingship I 6 (pp. 207-210)
- 8.2. Thur, Nov. 20: Machiavelli's *Prince*, Letter & Chapters I-VI

**3<sup>rd</sup> Paper Due – Fri, Nov. 21 by 5:00pm**

- 9.1. Tues, Nov. 25: *Prince*, Chapters VII-XIV
- 9.2. Thur, Nov. 27: NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING
- 10.1. Tues, Dec. 2: Aristotle's *Politics*, Book V Chapters 10-11; *Prince* Chapters XV-XIX
- 10.2. Thur, Dec. 4: *Prince*, Chapters XX-XXVI

**Final Paper Due – Thurs, Dec. 11 by 5:00pm**