

SOC394H1S - LEC0101/LEC9101 - Winter 2021

New Topics in Sociology: Rulers and Ruled

Instructor: Professor I. M. Zeitlin (irvingzeitlin2017@gmail.com)

Class Time: Online Lectures will be posted on Quercus

Location: Quercus (BB Collaborate)

Office Hours: By appointment on or on (Thursdays, 10am-12pm, via Quercus)

TA: Cinthya Guzman (c.guzman@mail.utoronto.ca)

TA Office Hours: By appointment, via Quercus

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This third-year course presents the chief insights of the following great thinkers: Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Montesquieu, Rousseau. We will also cover the Federalist Papers. As there are eight chapters in the book and 12 lectures in the course, my plan is to present a lecture on each thinker, each week.

Mode of Delivery:

The course is asynchronous. Lectures will be provided in advance for students to download. Students are expected to follow the course by doing the readings by the designated dates listed below. There are optional discussion boards on Quercus and drop in office hours (Thursdays/10am-12pm) with the professor via email. Note: the timing of this virtual drop-in period can be changed if a different time works better for a majority of students interested in participating. I will also be available for online meetings by individual arrangement.

Prerequisite:

The prerequisite to take this course is completion of 1.0 SOC at the 200 or higher level. Students without this requirement will be removed at any time discovered, and without notice.

Required Text:

1. I. M. Zeitlin, Rulers and Ruled, University of Toronto Press – Available in the U of T bookstore.

Grading Descriptions

Four position papers worth 25% each of the final course grade.

Position Paper	Due Date	Worth
Plato and Aristotle	Feb 4	25%
Machiavelli and Hobbes	Mar 4	25%
Locke and Montesquieu	Mar 18	25%
Rousseau and the Federalist Papers	Apr 8	25%

Handing in assignments: All assignments must be handed to the instructor electronically via Quercus. *The instructor and TA will NOT accept electronic copies of assignments via email.*

Deadlines: The assignments are due on the date listed in the syllabus (by noon). Late work will not be accepted without proper documentation (the Declaration of Absence on ACORN).

Accessibility: If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility> as soon as possible.

If you miss a test or a paper deadline, contact the instructor and cc the TA (within 24 hours) and followed the steps described here.

In case of illness, you must supply a completed the Declaration of Absence on ACORN and provide the instructor with a reference number. If your reasons are of a personal nature, you must contact your college registrar and have the registrar email the instructor directly.

If you are registered with Accessibility Services, your counselor will need to send an email message on your behalf (a one-week extension being the norm).

Student Responsibilities and Expectations

Participation: Students are expected to participate actively by 1) completing assigned readings, 2) writing the assigned discussion posts, and 3) keeping up to date on course information posted on Quercus. In all activities, students are to be respectful of fellow classmates and teaching staff.

Email Policy: I will respond to your email within two business days (48 hours, except weekends and holidays). Emails that do not follow these guidelines will not receive a response: Your use of an official U of T address is required. Please include the course code (e.g. SOC394) in the subject line and your full name and student number in your message. Please do not send a repeat email (e.g., “did you get my email?”).

In general, please treat emails as you would any other professional communication. You should be respectful in the way you address the instructor and the TA. Email is most suitable for questions that are clear, concise, and easily answerable; if you are confused about the course material or need to discuss a concept, I strongly encourage you to instead attend office hours or make an appointment. Please read the syllabus carefully before asking a general question about the course.

HELP from your T.A.: Your T.A. will hold scheduled online office hours and respond to your emails within 48 hours. Please be judicious in your use of email. Use it only for questions that are brief and specific. Before sending a question by email, be sure to check the course outline to see if an answer is already available. Emails should not be seen as an alternative to doing the assigned reading or attending lectures.

Turnitin Policy: Students agree that, by taking this course, all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of those papers. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

Assignments not submitted through Turnitin will receive a grade of zero (0 %) unless students instead provide, along with their exams, sufficient secondary material (e.g., reading notes, outlines of the paper, rough drafts of the final draft, etc.) to establish that the exam they submit is truly their own. The alternative (not submitting via Turnitin) is in place because, strictly speaking, using Turnitin is voluntary for students at the University of Toronto.

PLAGIARISM: Cheating and misrepresentation will not be tolerated. Students who commit an academic offense face serious penalties. Avoid plagiarism by citing properly: practices acceptable in high school may prove unacceptable in university. Know where you stand by reading the “Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters” in the Calendar of the Faculty of Arts and Science. Also, be aware that submitting the same work for more than one course or assignment constitutes an academic offense. Similarly, students who fail to demonstrate adequate referencing in accordance with UofT policies are also at risk of committing an academic offense. Familiarize yourself with an acceptable referencing style (APA/ASA).

Please carefully review the University of Toronto document: “How Not to Plagiarize”
<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>

Each assignment must be submitted in class, by paper, typewritten and double spaced:

ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

Assignment Format

All assignments should be submitted in 12pt font (i.e., Times New Roman), with 1 inch margins, and double spaced, on paper.

TIPS ON WRITING STRONG ASSIGNMENT ANSWERS

- Answers must be polished and clearly written, using full sentences and proper grammar.
- Ensure your answers are logical and well-organized.
- Back up claims with arguments and examples.
- A long-answer question may ask you to compare and contrast. This is an analytical approach - you must still provide a critical argument/thesis around which your answer is developed.
- A longer answer is not necessarily a better answer. Write concisely.
- We are interested in your reasoning as well as your intellectual creativity. So, make your assessment *fair* (consider the positive as well as the negative), *insightful* (do not state the obvious), and *comprehensive* (do not miss the forest for the trees).
- To do well on assignments, clearly engage both text and lecture material.

Required Reading & Course Schedule

Required readings: I. M. Zeitlin, Rulers and Ruled, University of Toronto Press – Available in the U of T bookstore.

Course Schedule: Students are expected to complete all required readings prior or on the date below.

Jan 14: History and Social Structure of Ancient Greece in the Time of Socrates and Plato

Required Reading: Chapter 1 - Plato

Jan 21: Plato's Political Philosophy

Required Reading: Chapter 1 - Plato

Jan 28: Aristotle

Required Reading: Chapter 2 - Aristotle

Feb 4: No Lecture

Position Paper 1 Due 25%

Feb 11: Machiavelli and the Neo-Machiavellians

Required Reading: Chapter 3 - Machiavelli

Feb 18: Reading Week

Feb 25: Hobbes

Required Reading: Chapter 4 - Thomas Hobbes

Mar 4: Locke

Required Reading: Chapter 5 - John Locke

Position Paper 2 Due 25%

Mar 11: Montesquieu

Required Reading: Chapter 6 - Montesquieu

Mar 18: No Lecture

Position Paper 3 Due 25%

Mar 25: Rousseau

Required reading: Chapter 7 - Rousseau

Apr 1: The Federalist Papers

Required Reading: Chapter 8 - The Federalist Papers

Apr 8: No Lecture

Position Paper 4 Due 25%