POLI 4082: POLITICAL THEORY FROM MACHIAVELLI TO BURKE (rev.)
Spring Semester 2011/ Prof. Ellis Sandoz/ Stubbs 220/ 10:40 a.m TTh

Conference hour: 12:00-1:00 PM daily & by appointment; 212 Stubbs, 225 578-2552. 7888

Required books: Eric Voegelin, The New Science of Politics (pb)
Edward S. Corwin, The "Higher Law" Background of American Constitutional Law (pb), Amagi Bks, Liberty Fund
The Portable Machiavelli, ed. & trans. P. Bondella & M. Musa
Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan, ed. E. Curley
John Locke, Two Treatises of Government, ed. P. Laslett
Rousseau, Basic Political Writings (pb), ed. D. Cress

Course & Requirements: The course continues POLI 4081 and provides a survey of some major political thinkers in the modern period down to the end of the 19th century, with emphases: (a) on influences of significance for American political thought--especially the emergence of constitutionalism and liberty under law; and (b) on the eclipse of philosophy by the modern ideologies & rise of Gnostic politics and radical revolution.

Class attendance is required! Tests will be based on lectures and assigned reading, which will not necessarily be covered in class: two tests will count 30% + 30% and the final 40% of the semester average. Missing a test without valid excuse will result in a penalty of 7% and the test must be made up within one calendar week or grade goes to zero. Review questions will be provided in advance of the tests and a review session will be conducted. Graduate students only will be required to execute a research project dealing with a mutually agreed upon subject and produce a formal paper of about 20 typed pages (=6,000 words), plus notes and bibliography. Topics must be settled by Feb. 5 and papers submitted by May 3 (last class day).

Weekly Reading and Course Calendar: Spring 2011

" 25: Cont’d

Feb 1: Machiavelli: Prince, Castruco, & selections from Discourses: Bk. I, chaps. 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 34 & 49; Bk. II, chaps. 2 & 31; Bk. III, chaps. 1, 30, 31, 49
Feb. 8: Cont’d
  15: Cont’d; Voegelin, NSP, chaps. 2-4; Sandoz, Gov’t of Laws, chap. 1;
  " 22: Cont’d;
    >>>Test I on Feb. 24>>>

Mar. 1: Hobbes, Leviathan, Parts I & II;
  8: >>>Mardi Gras>>>
  " 15: Cont’d; Locke, Second Treatise; Sandoz, Gov’t of Laws, chaps. 2 & 3;
  " 22: Cont’d;
  " 29: Rousseau, Social Contract

Apr. 5: Cont’d;
    >>>Test II on April 7; covers material since Test I>>>>
  " 12: Sandoz, Gov’t of Laws, chaps.4-7; Voegelin, NSP, chaps.5- 6
  " 19: >>>spring break<<<
  " 26: Cont’d; Corwin, Higher Law Background

May 3: Cont’d & course review; Grad students papers due

FINAL EXAM May 12, 7:30-9:30 AM CUMULATIVE!


- Now a text in POLI 4081 (Fall 2010)