Political Science 513: Radical Political Theory
Spring 2013, MWF 09:55-10:45
Van Vleck B223

Instructor: Se-Hyoun Yi
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Course Description
Given that “Radical Political Theory” is a vast topic, we will focus in this course mostly on the debates about the controversial relationship between individual and (political) community. Our understanding of democracy, i.e. liberal democracy, is based upon a set of particular assumptions about the relationship. However, these assumptions have been continuously questioned and challenged by different strands of political theory. This course will engage some of the theoretical challenges to liberal democracy, such as Marxism, anarchism, black radicalism, feminism, multiculturalism, political agonism, and a certain version of republicanism. By doing that, we will investigate the sorts of questions that continue to engage contemporary democratic theorists: what is a better - if not ideal – relationship between individual and community? Do our assumptions of democracy still work in the context of cultural and moral conflicts? Can we imagine different kind of democracy?

Course format
My lectures will explore the assigned readings and other materials that will be presented in class. Considering the class size, this course will also include small group discussion, class discussion, and group debate. I will frequently ask you about key concepts and ideas in class. We will cover between one hundred and one hundred fifty pages per week. Thus to successfully pass this course, it is essential that you complete the assigned readings before class and come to class ready to think about them.

Course Materials
The following books are available for purchase at the University Bookstore. You are required to purchase the editions listed. Some titles may be available at College Library Reserves. Other selections are posted on learn@UW.

ISBN: 978-0393090406
ISBN: 978-0521369732
ISBN: 978-1844673865
Chantal Mouffe, Democratic Paradox, Verso, 2009.
ISBN: 978-1844673551
ISBN: 978-0674197459
Course Requirements, Assignments & Grading

Regular attendance at lecture is mandatory. I will allow each student three absences throughout this semester only to accommodate for illnesses, religious holidays, family emergency, and other unexpected events—no explanation is necessary. Beyond that, for each missed class, your final participation grade will drop by one percentage point. In other words, if you miss eight times for whatever reason, your attendance grade will be ZERO. If severe illness or a family emergency forces you to miss more than three classes, it is your responsibility to inform me beforehand. Regular attendance does not guarantee your participation grade. You are required to actively participate in class discussion.

We will have five group debates on the designated dates. You will volunteer for one debate with any role throughout this semester. A debate is composed of roughly seven participants. (1 for a chairperson, 3 for team A, 3 for team B) A chairperson is responsible for proposing two debate topics. The topics should closely relate the readings of this course to contemporary political questions. A chairperson should e-mail the topics to all class members at least 5 days before the debate day. S/He will also run a debate. Both teams should make opposing or different arguments and defend their positions. Neither handouts nor visual effects are needed. The positions in the debates will not be considered as your permanent political stance. The discussion consists of 5 min. of introduction by a chairperson, 30-35 min. of free debate between two teams, and 10 min. of open questions from the floor. This activity will be graded by me (3%) and students in the floor (7%). The grading sheet will be offered.

There will be two examinations. The examinations will consist of short answer, text analysis, and essay items. The final essay questions will be accumulative. Course grades will be calculated approximately as follows, though I reserve the right to change assignments and weightings as I deem necessary:

- Midterm Examination: 25%
- Paper: 25%
- Final Examination: 35%
- Group Debate: 10%
- Attendance and Participation: 5%


OTHER POLICIES:

Special Need: Students needing special accommodations to enable full participation in this course should contact the instructor as early as possible. For more information, contact the McBurney Disability Resource Center: www.mcburney.wisc.edu / (608) 263-2741

Examination and Paper: All exams must be taken on the dates listed on the following course schedule. I will allow make-up examinations only for the most compelling reasons (not to include, for example: travel plans, heavy work load in other courses, procrastination, laziness). Paper assignment will be 1600-word in length and will ask you to analyze one or more authors. You may not draw on outside sources. I will hand out a prompt at least two
weeks in advance of due date. Paper must be turned in by the start of class on the due date. Late papers will be penalized one full letter grade for every 24-hour period late (e.g. A to AB, AB to B, etc.). If you are 1 minute late, or 24 hours late, it costs you one letter grade.

**Grading:** All exams and papers will be returned within two weeks after your submission. I will discuss grades on examinations and paper for 24 hours after they have been returned. If, after 24 hours’ reflection, you have a concern about a grade, please approach me with a brief written explanation of your concern. Any concerns about grading must be raised no later than two weeks after the assignment has been returned.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any instances of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result a grade of “F” for the course. For more information, visit www.wisc.edu/students/saja/misconduct/UWS14.html

**Electronic Device Policy:** Laptops and tablets are not allowed in this class. If you will use them for academic purposes only, please contact your instructor.

**Class Manners:** Any disrespectful attitude towards your instructor and fellow students will not be condoned. The disrespectful manners include, but not limited to, drowsing, habitual tardiness, interrupting and dominating fellow students, eating food, web-browsing, texting, and using vulgar words.

### Course Schedule

**I. Our Understanding(s) of Democracy**

- **Jan 23 W**  Introduction to Course
- **Jan 25 F**  John Locke, *The Second Treatise*, selections (learn@UW)
  Louis Hartz, The Liberal Tradition in America Ch. 1 (learn@UW)  
  Ayn Rand, *What is Capitalism?* (learn@UW)
- **Jan 30 W**  FDR, *Speech at Oglethorpe University* and  
  FDR, *Commonwealth Club Speech* (learn@UW)  
  Louis Hartz, *The Liberal Tradition in America* Ch. 10 (learn@UW)
- **Feb 1 F**  Daniel Bell, *The End of Ideology*, selections (learn@UW)  
  John Rawls, *The Idea of Overlapping Consensus* (learn@UW)
- **Feb 4 M**  John Rawls, *The Priority of Right and the Idea of Good* (learn@UW)  
Freedom from Religion, *In Defense of "Godlessness"

II. The Marxist Responses

Feb 6 W  Karl Marx, *On the Jewish Question*

Feb 8 F  Karl Marx, *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844*

Feb 11 M  Karl Marx, *The German Ideology*

Feb 13 W  Friedrich Engels, *Letters on Historical Materialism*
           Karl Marx, *On Imperialism in India*
           M. K. Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj*, selections (learn@UW)

Feb 15 F  Karl Marx, *Manifesto of the Communist Party*

Feb 18 M  V. I. Lenin, *State and Revolution*, Ch 1, 3 (learn@UW)

Feb 20 W  V. I. Lenin, *State and Revolution*, Ch 5 (learn@UW)
           Exam Review

Feb 22 F  *Midterm Exam*

Feb 25 M  Group Debate - 1

Feb 27 W  Group Debate - 2

III. Debates on Anarchism

Mar 1 F  Mikhail Bakunin, *Statism and Anarchy*, 1-51

Mar 4 M  Mikhail Bakunin, *Statism and Anarchy*, 103-68

Mar 6 W  Mikhail Bakunin, *Statism and Anarchy*, 169-197

Mar 8 F  Karl Marx, *After the Revolution: Marx Debates Bakunin*
           Friedrich Engels, *Versus Anarchists*
           Friedrich Engels, *On Authority*

Mar 11 M  Emma Goldman, *What It Really Stands for Anarchy?* (learn@UW)

Mar 13 W  Ayn Rand, *The Nature of Government* (learn@UW)
           James Scott, *Two Cheers for Anarchism*, selections (learn@UW)


**IV. Politics of Identity, Politics of Difference**

1. Black Radicalism

Mar 20 W  Malcolm X, *The Ballot or the Bullet* (learn@UW)
           Carmichael, *Toward Black Liberation* (learn@UW)

Mar 22 F  Hannah Arendt, *Reflections of Little Rock* (learn@UW)

Mar 25 M - Mar 29 F  Spring Recess

Apr 1 M  No Class

2. Feminism

Apr 3 W  Emma Goldman, *Woman Suffrage* (learn@UW)
           Martha Nussbaum, *Human Capabilities, Female Human Beings* (learn@UW)

3. Multiculturalism and Politics of Difference

Apr 5 F  Will Kymlicka, *Justice and Minority Rights* (learn@UW)
           Iris Marion Young, *The Ideal of Impartiality and the Civic Public* (learn@UW)

4. Identity, Reason, and Human Rights

Apr 8 M  Jennifer Ann Yang, *Marriage by Capture in the Hmong Culture* (learn@UW)
           Amarytia Sen, *Reason Before Identity* (learn@UW)

Apr 10 W  **Paper Due**
           In Class Watch: *Split Horn: The Life of a Hmong Shaman in America*

Apr 12 F  Group Debate - 3

Apr 15 M  Group Debate - 4

**V. Radical Democracy**

Apr 17 W  Michel Foucault, *Panopticism* (learn@UW)
           Michel Foucault, *Two Lectures* (learn@UW)

Apr 19 F  Michel Foucault, *Truth and Power* (learn@UW)

Apr 22 M  Chantal Mouffe, *Democratic Paradox*, Introduction and Ch 1
VI. Democracy, Community, and Virtue

May 1 W    Michael Sandel, *Democracy's Discontent*, Ch 1-2
May 3 F    Michael Sandel, *Democracy's Discontent*, Ch 3, 8
May 6 M    Michael Sandel, *Democracy's Discontent*, Ch 9, Conclusion
May 8 W    Group Debate - 5
May 10 F   Exam Review

*Final Exam: May 14, Tuesday*