

**POLI 326 (L01) (Western Political Thought I: Ancient)**

Pre/Co-Requisites: POLI 310 or POLI 326 and 328	
Instructor: Dr. Joshua D. Goldstein	Lecture Location: CHC 105
Phone: 403) 220-6090	Lecture Days/Time: MWF 12:00 – 12:50
Email: <a href="mailto:joshua.goldstein@ucalgary.ca">joshua.goldstein@ucalgary.ca</a>	
Office: SS 728	
Office Hours: Monday 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm Wednesday 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Friday 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Other times by appointment (please email).	

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Overview:** This course introduces students to some of the world-shaping ideas and questions that emerged in the ancient Greek Mediterranean world. These ideas and questions have helped give life and direction—through a long and convoluted paths—to the very wide-variety of communities, institutions, laws, policies, values, and projects through which we today pursue our shared goals. Moreover, these ideas which emerged in the ancient Mediterranean shape what even *counts as goal worthy of pursuing*.

**Making Sense of our World:** Without knowing these foreign and ancient origins of our contemporary ideas and questions we cannot make sense of our own world. We are then, in a sense, *asleep* to our world. The goal of the course—and indeed of political philosophy as a discipline—is to awake us to the ways that the Greeks have grasped, shaped, created, and taken-up human possibilities, setting trajectories of thought and action without which our modern world not be possible, both for good and ill. In becoming awake to our world we will be better prepared to see and appreciate alternative paths of thought and action.

**Who We Will Study:** The best way to explore the ideas and questions that define the Western tradition political philosophy is by directly reading, writing about, and discussing the works of two of those most foundationally influential Ancient Greeks, Plato (428–347 BCE) and Aristotle (384–322 BCE).

**What We Will Read:** Through a four Platonic dialogues—dramatic works, like a play, in which political and philosophic ideas emerge in the course of discussion—we will see how politics is not only set out as an area of reflection for the first time, but also how we might begin to question the assumptions and traditions of our own communities by asking what makes them good, noble, and just. When we turn to Aristotle, we will encounter the first attempt to systematically present a science of politics and of ethics, one that attempts to set out two paths that human beings might follow in order to live not just a seemingly good life, but a truly good life. Taken together, Plato and Aristotle offer us a profoundly original and profoundly different way of grounding what is important for us and for the political community.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Through reading, writing about, and discussing the course material, this course aims to achieve three goals:

1. *Informational*: to have students gain familiarity with the arguments and positions of the thinkers and texts covered;
2. *Analytical*: to have students be able to analyze the arguments for, and explore the implications of, the thinkers' attempts to set out what they take to be the foundational ideas and questions for a political community and the individuals within it; and,
3. *Critical*: to have students be able to take a careful and worked-out position—both interpretatively within the texts and thematically with regard to the overarching concerns or tensions that run through the material—and to defend that position using the intellectual resources gained in the course.

### **COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS & DUE DATES:**

**Class Will Be Divided into Four Groups:** We have a large class. To help spread out the assignments, the class will be divided into four groups: Orange, Red, Green, and Blue. The names have no significance (ironically, that *is* their significance). The exact scheduling of your quizzes, on-line participation, and papers will be determined by the group to which you are assigned. (Group assignment is done automatically by D2L *based on preferences that you will submit*: more information on how to submit the preferences will be given later.)

**Once you are assigned to a group, you may not switch to another except under extraordinary circumstances.**

## OVERVIEW OF ASSIGNMENTS

Due Date	Assignment	Weight	Summary Description	Late Penalty
Groups Orange & Red Assignments				
Week 8: <i>Available from Friday 3pm to Monday 12noon</i>	<b>Plato Quiz</b>	<b>10%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 minute take-home quiz completed on D2L.</li> <li>20 Multiple-choice questions.</li> <li>Tests your knowledge of terms and ideas in Plato's dialogues assigned up to that point.</li> <li>Submit paper through D2L.</li> </ul>	Late quizzes not accepted.
Week 13: Due Friday 11:59 pm	<b>Aristotle Paper</b>	<b>20%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>750 words max.</li> <li>Thoughtful, focused engagement with Aristotle's search for the good life in the <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i>.</li> <li>Choice of questions and detailed instruction sheet will be provided.</li> </ul>	-2% of paper grade off per day late, not including weekends.
Groups Green & Blue Assignments				
Week 9: Due Friday 11:59 pm	<b>Plato Paper</b>	<b>20%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>750 words max.</li> <li>Thoughtful, focused engagement with Plato's search for the good life in the <i>Euthyphro</i>, <i>Apology</i>, and <i>Crito</i>.</li> <li>Choice of questions and detailed instruction sheet will be provided.</li> <li>Submit paper through D2L.</li> </ul>	-2% of paper grade off per day late, not including weekends.
Week 13 <i>Available from Friday 3pm to Monday 12noon</i>	<b>Aristotle Quiz</b>	<b>10%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 minute take-home quiz completed on D2L.</li> <li>20 Multiple-choice questions.</li> <li>Tests your knowledge of terms and ideas in Aristotle's thought assigned up to that point.</li> </ul>	Late quizzes not accepted.
Whole Class Assignments				
Orange & Red Weeks 4, 7, 9, & 11 <i>Monday 9am to Friday 5pm</i>	<b>On-line Discussion Sessions</b>	<b>20%</b> 5% x 4 sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>D2L discussion session will run from Mon–Fri on specified weeks.</li> <li>Initial topic/question for discussion will be posted, students take it from there.</li> <li>125 words max per post; normally only the 5 most substantive posts are evaluated.</li> <li>Posts evaluated on: (1) insightfulness; (2) textual support; (3) ability to stimulate discussion; (4) consistency across the week; and (5) respectfulness to others.</li> </ul>	Not applicable
Green & Blue Week 3, 5, 8, & 10 <i>Monday 9am to Friday 5pm</i>				
Registrar Scheduled in Exam Period	<b>Final<sup>[AF1]</sup> Exam</b>	<b>50%</b> 10% Multiple-choice; 10% Short answer; 30% Take-home essay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-hour exam on-line on D2L: Students will be provided with a 24-hour window in which to access and complete the exam.</li> <li>Any student experiencing a technical problem or some event or responsibility preventing them from completing the exam will be accommodated by extending the time, providing the opportunity to complete the exam off-line, or through setting up a new date to complete the exam as best fits the student's needs.</li> <li>Email course instructor if scheduled on-line exam time will be problematic</li> <li>Questions will focus on sources of agreement and disagreement between Plato and Aristotle</li> <li>Exam components: 20 Multiple-choice questions (10%); 5 Short-answer questions (10%); 1 Take-home essay on Plato and Aristotle (1,000 words max.; questions given in advance) (30%)</li> </ul>	Late exams not accepted.

## GRADING SCHEME

A+	= 91–100	B+	= 77–79	C+	= 67–69	D+	= 55–59
A	= 85–90	B	= 73–76	C	= 63–66	D	= 50–54
A-	= 80–84	B-	= 70–72	C-	= 60–62	F	= 0–49

### **WRITING STATEMENT:**

Problems with grammar and spelling will affect an assignment's grade only when they substantively interfere with the meaning of your argument and evidence.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

You are required to read material from the books listed below. *You are very strongly encouraged to use the specific translations specified below.*

1. Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* (Trans. Joe Sachs) (Newburyport, MA: Focus Publishing, R. Pullins Company, 2002)
2. Aristotle, *Politics* (Oxford World's Classics) (trans. Ernest Barker) (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009).
3. Plato, *Four Texts on Socrates: Plato's Euthyphro, Apology, and Crito and Aristophanes' Clouds* (Trans. Thomas G. West & Grace Starry West) (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1998)
4. Plato, *Gorgias* (Oxford World's Classics) (Trans. Robin Waterfield) (New York: Oxford University Press, 1994)

### **COURSE READING & ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:**

On the following pages you will find a schedule of readings and classes for the course. Please note the readings are given for each *week*, not for each *class* within that week. Depending on your own preferences, you may find it helpful to do all the readings before the beginning of each week, throughout the week, or at the end of the week. The lectures, however, will be an analysis and elaboration of the readings—not a description of them.

So whatever timing you choose (or find yourself adopting) for the readings, you will have to be familiar with them and will be required to demonstrate that familiarity on the tests, papers, and final exam. *We will do our best to keep to the schedule of readings below but the schedule is subject to change. Note: only some cataclysmic event will cause a change in test and paper due dates.*

## SCHEDULE FOR READINGS, ASSIGNMENT, & DISCUSSION SESSIONS

wk	Week Begins	Required Readings {* = number of pages to read per week}	Assignments	
<b>INTRO &amp; GREEK TERRAIN OF AUTHORITY</b>			Orange & Red	Green & Blue
1	Wed Sept 7* *Sept 5: No Class	Course Syllabus, ☐ All of it, please!		
<b>PLATO</b>				
2	Mon Sept 12	Euthyphro, ☐ 2a-5d5 [pp. 41-46] {5*}		
3	Mon Sept 19	Euthyphro, ☐ 5d5-11b8 [pp. 46-54], ☐ 11b8-16a3 [pp. 54-61] {15*}		Discussion 1
4	Mon Sept 26* *Sept 30: National Truth & Reconciliation Day	Apology of Socrates, ☐ 17a-28b [pp. 63-78] {16*}	Discussion 1	
5	Mon Oct 3	Apology of Socrates, ☐ 28b-42a3 [pp. 78-97] Crito, ☐ 43a-48b2 [pp. 99-106] {26*}		Discussion 2
6	Wed Oct 12* *Oct 10: Thanksgiving	Crito, ☐ 48b3-54e2 [pp. 106-114] Gorgias, [What is Rhetoric] ☐ 447a-466a6 [pp. 3-34] {39*}	Plato Quiz	Plato Paper
7	Mon Oct 17	Gorgias, [Rhetoric, Calicles, and Kinaidos] ☐ 466a7-495a [pp. 34-83] {50*}	Discussion 2	
8	Mon Oct 24	Gorgias, [Calicles & Pleasure] ☐ 495a-521a [pp. 83-125]; [Tartarus Myth] ☐ 521a2-527e8 [pp. 126-135] {51*}		Discussion 3
<b>ARISTOTLE</b>				
9	Mon Oct 31	Nicomachean Ethics, [The Human Good] Bk. I, ☐ chs. 1-5, 1094a1-1096a11 [pp. 1-5], ☐ chs. 7-8, 1097a14-1099b9 [pp. 9-14], ☐ ch. 13, 1102a6-1103a10 [pp. 19-21] {13*}	Discussion 3	
<b>NOV6-12 READING WEEK</b>				
10	Mon Nov 14	Nicomachean Ethics, [Ethical Virtues] Bk. II, ☐ chs. 1-7, 1103a13-1108b10 [pp. 21-33], ☐ ch. 9, 1109a20-1109b29 [pp. 34-36] {14*}		Discussion 4
11	Mon Nov 21	Nicomachean Ethics, [Intellectual Virtues] Bk. VI, ☐ chs. 1-13, 1138b18-1145a11 [pp. 102-118] {16*}	Discussion 4	
12	Mon Nov 28	Nicomachean Ethics, [Happiness] Bk. X, ☐ chs. 6-9, 1176a30-1181b24 [pp. 190-200] Politics, [Household & City] Bk. I, ☐ chs. 1-7, 1252a1-1255b39 [pp. 7-20], [Citizenship & Best Constitutions] Bk. III, ☐ chs. 1-8, 1274b32-1280a7 [pp. 84-102], ☐ chs. 9, 1280b29-1281a10 [pp. 105-6] {43*}	Aristotle Paper	Aristotle Quiz
13	Mon Dec 5* *No Class Friday: End of Semester	Politics, [Rich & Poor] Bk. IV, ☐ chs. 11-12, 1295a25-1297a14 [pp. 157-162]; [The Good Life & Good City] Bk. VII, ☐ chs. 1-3, 1323a14-1325b32 [pp. 251-260], ☐ chs. 13-15, 1331b24-1334b28 [pp. 279-290] {25*}		
In the Exam Period Dec. 10-21		Final Exam will be scheduled by the Registrar sometime in the Exam Period. The exam will be on-line for POLI 326 through D2L	Final Exam, including Take-home Essay	

## **IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

### **Absence From a Mid-term Examination**

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

**Deferred Term Work Form:** Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at: [https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/P22\\_deferral-of-term-work\\_lapseGrade.pdf](https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/P22_deferral-of-term-work_lapseGrade.pdf)

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre ([ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)) for approval by the Associate Dean.

### **Deferral of a Final Examination**

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

### **Reappraisal of Grades:**

*For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar 1.2*

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

*For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar 1.3*

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

### **Academic Misconduct:**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

Student committing academic misconduct during the final exam will not receive a passing grade for the course.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, Procedure and Academic Integrity, please visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

### **Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct**

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

### **Recording of Lectures:**

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

### **Academic Accommodations:**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>

### **Research Ethics**

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subject research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:**

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>

### **Copyright Legislation:**

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy

may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **Evacuation Assembly Points**

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points> and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

### **Important Dates:**

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Tower.

### **Important Contact Information**

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)  
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives  
Phone: 403-220-6551  
Email: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)  
Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association  
Phone: 403-220-5997  
Email: [askgsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:askgsa@ucalgary.ca)  
URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman  
Phone: 403-220-6420  
Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)



## **Campus Mental Health Resources**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

*SU Wellness Centre:* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

*Student Wellness Services:*

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

*Campus Mental Health Strategy website:* <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.