|  |
| --- |
| **Course Name: Modern Political Theory**  |
| **Course Code: PLSC 302** | **Course Type ( major)** | **Course Credits: 3** |
| **Class Timings: 09:00-09:50**M/W/F | **Section:** | **Student Meeting Hours/ Office Hours:**12- 14:00 H (Tuesday)11- 13:00 H (Friday) Otherwise take an appointment |
| **Instructor Name: Asad ur Rehman** |
| **A Note from the Instructor:**All students are expected to attend the lectures and come prepared for the class. The designated readings for next lecture will always be provided before the next class. It is therefore binding to read them to have a better discussion in class. All students are also expected to assign a separate notebook or section of notebook for note taking. If you find any difficulty related to course materials, class participation or general comprehension please feel free to discuss. Brining such issues to notice close to finals will not be entertained. |
| **Instructor Contact Details**Email: asadrahman@fccollege.edu.pkOffice Hours (face to face and/ or online): 12- 14:00 H (Tuesday)11- 13:00 H (Friday) Guidelines for contacting instructor: Please use email address |
| **Course Description**:This course will introduce students to philosophical ideas that has shaped our modern world and its political institutions. It will ask students to think about1. What are the biggest Ideas of modern political thought?
2. Is politics natural or artificial?
3. We need what kind of state?
4. Can political justice possible?

The insights provided by great thinkers of modern period (16-20th century) to these perennial questions will be studied in a reflexive manner to prepare student for an independent reflexive manner of thinking about politics.  |
| **Main Mode of Instruction:** *Class lectures* |
| **Course Objectives or** [**Student Learning Outcomes**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1me9vpl8iKR_zNX9gIODm7gkVFY9VkuSKpUJe1VyI57M/edit) **(SLOs)*** To introduce students with the subject of political philosophy.
* To introduce students with leading modern thinkers
* To clarify basic distinction among philosophy, theory, and ideology of politics.
* To describe the link between political philosophy and political science
* To help them understanding the ideas of leading thinker to answer fundamental questions of their time.
* To develop critical faculty in students to evaluate answers provided by these thinkers and their relevance to contemporary political challenges and problems.
 |

|  |
| --- |
| **Course Books**1. Smith, Steven B. *Political philosophy*. Yale University Press, 2012 (Book 1)
2. Roberts, Peri. *Introduction to Political Thought: A Conceptual Toolkit*. Edinburgh university press, 2012. (Book-2)
3. Handouts will be provided for remaining lectures
 |

**Course Content, Learning Material & Activities Schedule**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Module I** | **Key ideas of Philosophy and history**  |
| Week-1  | Key questionsWhat is philosophy?How it is related to political action?Can history be a useful guide to understand political ideas, institutions and actions?Readings * Chapter -1 , 1-10 p, (Book 1).
* Political Philosophy, dictionary entry, Oxford concise dictionary of Politics
* Encyclopaedia Britannica entry on Political Philosophy (https://www.britannica.com/topic/political-philosophy)
 |
| Week- 2 | From Ancients to Moderns- The key shifts |
| Week-3 | Athens vs Jerusalem- The influence of theology and ancient philosophy on modern Political Thought.  |
| Week-4 | Bacon and Newton and their influence on Modern Political Theory |
| **Module II — Modernity and political questions of Sovereignty, popular government, and constitutionalism** |
| Week-5 | * From Ancients to Modern What has changed — Handouts
* Liberty, freedom, and human nature — ideas of social contract theorist

Chapter 3 book 2 |
| Week 6 | The Artificiality of State vs Naturalness of ideal republics- Social contract theoristChapter 4 book 2 |
| Week 7 | Questioning the Artificiality of State and Nature — MarxChapter 5 book 2 |
| Week 8 | Midterm |
| **Module III — Ideas in Actions**  |
| Week -9 | Democracy in America, Toucqville (Book 1 chapter 11) |
| Week -10 | Rights vs Utility — Chapter 6 Book 2 |
| Week — 11 | Distributive Justice Chapter 7, Book 2 |
| Week-12 | Liberalism and Multiculturalism, Book 2, Chapter 8 |
| **Module IV — Contemporary moral and Political Theory**  |
| Week-13 | The International order — The society of states, chapter 9 Book 2 |
| Week 14 | Feminism, what’s wrong with universal justice, Chapter 11, Book 2 |
| Week 15 | Postcolonial thinkers (handouts provided) |
| Week 16 | Final Exam |

**Course Requirements:**

The breakup is as follows:

**Class Participation 20**%

**Quizzes:**  10 %

**Midterm exam**: 20 %

**Final term exam:**  30 %

**Assignments 20 %**

**TOTAL 100%**

###

**Attendance Policy:**

*Attendance will be taken regularly*