

Spring 2011

Mr. Strong;

POLITICAL SCIENCE 13: POWER AND JUSTICE

The course deals with 1/ the relationship between our understandings of who and what we are as human beings and citizens and our understandings of the political and social worlds in which we live (we may call that the topic of *justice*) and 2/ how those understandings are shaped by forces both in and not in our control (call that the topic of *power*).

Required books may be purchased at the book store. In addition a reader should be purchased from University Readers. Go to their website (www.universityreaders.com) and follow instructions. As the lectures do not recapitulate the readings it is important to have done the reading before class and before section. Please bring the book or material being discussed to section. These books are on reserve but you should own them.

My office hours are Mondays 1:30-3 in SSB 374, drop in, and by appt at 534 7081. Email is tstrong@ucsd.edu. Your TA will give her/his office hours, location and contact information in section.

Requirements for the course include attendance, participation in section (10%), a midterm (25%); a paper (25%) and a final in-class exam (40%).

March 28: Introduction: Political Theory, Politics, and Political Science.

SECTION ONE: Power and the politics of identity in difficult situations

March 30: FILM: "Obedience" by Stanley Milgram

April 4, 6: The limits of selfhood and identity:

READING: Bettelheim: "Individual and Mass Behavior in Extreme Situations" (**reader**)

April 11, 13: The self and political commitment

READING: Koestler, *Darkness at Noon* (**BOOKSTORE**)

April 18-20: What does it mean to be a citizen?

READING: Plato, *Apology, Crito* (**BOOKSTORE**)

April 25 : What obligations does a citizen or anyone else have?

READING: Pitkin, "Obligation and Consent" (**reader**)

FIRST MIDTERM IN April 27 IN CLASS

SECTION TWO: Justice and the politics of identity in a changing world

May 2, 4: Persons, Humans and Citizens

READING: "Griswold v. Connecticut"; "Roe v. Wade"; "Webster v. Reproductive Health Services"; "Planned Parenthood v. Casey": in Shapiro, ed. *The Abortion Decisions* (BOOKSTORE).

May 9, 11: Selfhood and Society

READING: Mill, *On Liberty* (BOOKSTORE)

Feb 16: Politics, Contracts and Technology

READING: Locke (reader); "In the Matter of Baby M" (2 Court decisions in reader)

PAPER DUE ON May 18

SECTION THREE: The Limits of Citizenship and Citizenship at the Limit

START READING ELLISON

May 18: If not a citizen then what?

READING: Thoreau, "Civil Disobedience" (reader); (Optional) Kateb, "Walt Whitman and the Culture of Democracy" (reader)

March 23-25: Being in and being out: who speaks for whom?

READING: Ellison, *Invisible Man* (BOOKSTORE)

June 1: Concluding Thoughts

FINAL IN CLASSROOM AT SET TIME