

# Syllabus for Political Science 110C: Kant to Nietzsche

**Spring 2018**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30-1:50

(Last updated on March 27, 2018)

<b>Instructor:</b>	Sean Ingham	<b>Time:</b>	Tu., Th. 12:30-1:50
<b>Instructor email:</b>	singham@ucsd.edu	<b>Website:</b>	triton ed
<b>Office hours:</b>	Tu., Th. 2-3	<b>Office:</b>	350 Social Sciences Building

## Course description

The course surveys important works of social and political theory from the end of the 18th century to the beginning of the 20th. We'll use the readings to think about the ideals of liberty and equality, different interpretations of what these ideals demand of individual conduct and social and political institutions, and the possible reasons for endorsing or criticizing them.

## Readings and website

To access the course website, go to <https://triton.ed.ucsd.edu>. Students must be able to receive email from the Triton Ed website and should check this account regularly. All course-related email will be sent via the website.

The schedule of readings can be found below. It specifies what should be read before each lecture. Each text can be found either on the course website, as .pdf file, or online.

The material is often dense, so one must read each text with care. **Doing so requires reading difficult passages multiple times and sometimes reading the entire text more than once.** There are reading questions for each assigned reading on the website, and there will be regular quizzes based on the reading questions. Always bring a copy of the assigned reading to lecture because we will go over difficult passages together in class.

## Course requirements and grading

The grade is based on participation, quizzes, a midterm exam, a cumulative final exam, and two writing assignments. All graded assignments/course activity total to 400 points, allocated as follows:

- **Participation.** 50 points. Students are expected to participate in class. Full participation requires asking questions about what one didn't understand in the reading—this presupposes that one has done the reading—and volunteering answers to questions posed to the class.
- **Quizzes.** 50 points. Quizzes are designed to test whether a student completed the reading assignment and attempted to answer the reading questions. They are administered in class.
- **Midterm.** 75 points. The midterm exam is on May 3. It covers Bentham, Kant, Hegel, and Marx.

- **Final cumulative exam.** 100 points. The final exam is cumulative, but with a special emphasis on the readings assigned after the midterm exam. The date of the final exam can be found on the Registrar’s website.
- **Papers.** 125 points. There are two papers. A first, short paper is worth 25 points, and a second, longer paper is worth 100 points. Details of the assignment will be released later in the semester.

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. For more information about what constitutes academic dishonesty and the potential repercussions, see the information at the following link:

<https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/>

## Reading schedule

- [1] **April 3.** Introduction, no readings assigned.
- [2] **April 5.** Jeremy Bentham, *An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation*, chs. I, IV.
- [3] **April 10.** Immanuel Kant, *Groundwork for a Metaphysics of Morals*, preface.
- [4] **April 12.** Kant, *Groundwork for a Metaphysics of Morals*, chapter 1.
- [5] **April 17.** Immanuel Kant, “Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Purpose.”
- [6] **April 19.** G.W.F. Hegel, “General Introduction to a Philosophy of History,” §§3.1, 3.2
- [7] **April 24.** Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*, introduction, §I.
- [8] **April 26.** Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*, §§II, IV.
- [9] **May 1.** Marx, Preface to *A Critique of Political Economy; Critique of the Gotha Programme*.
- [10] **May 3.** Midterm exam.
- [11] **May 8.** J.S. Mill, *On Liberty*, ch. 1. **First paper due.**
- [12] **May 10.** *On Liberty*, ch. 2.
- [13] **May 15.** Mill, *On the Subjection of Women*, selections tbd.
- [14] **May 17.** Mill, *Considerations on Representative Government*, selections tbd.
- [15] **May 22.** Friedrich Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals*, Preface, §§1–6; First Essay, §§1, 2, 4, 7–17.
- [16] **May 24.** Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals*, Second Essay.
- [17] **May 29.** Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals*, Third Essay.
- [18] **May 31.** W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*, selections tbd.
- [19] **June 5.** Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*, continued.
- [20] **June 7.** Review for the final exam. **Second paper due.**