Gender and Political Theory
790:365
Fall 2014
Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:15-3:55, Room TBD

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Office Hours: TBD

Course Description
This course will examine the explicit and implicit assumptions about gender made by some of the major political thinkers of the Western Tradition. The objective of this course is to explore how reading classic political theory texts with an eye to gender can yield unique insights and foster critical thinking about political ideas and arguments. Readings will be drawn from both primary and secondary sources, and emphasis will be placed on the ways in which re-reading canonical texts can enrich contemporary debates about subjects like freedom, citizenship, equality, and representation.

The course fulfills the following Core Curriculum Student Learning Outcomes:
II. h. Understand the bases and development of human and societal endeavors across time and place.
II. m. Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems, and other forms of social organization.
II. n. Apply concepts about human and social behavior to particular questions or situations.

Course Texts
Some readings will be posted as pdfs to Sakai, and you should print and read them before coming to class on the specified day. There are three required books for this course. These can be purchased in person at either the Rutgers University Bookstore at Ferren Mall or NJ Books on Easton Ave. They can be easily ordered online as well—Amazon.com and Abebooks.com are reliable options.

Required texts:

Course Expectations
Attendance and Participation (20%)
Midterm In-Class Exam and Take Home Paper (40%)
In-Class Final Exam (40%)
**Makeup Exams and Missed Assignments**

Exams and papers must be submitted on time, barring exceptional circumstances. As a general rule, extensions of assignment due dates will not be granted, and late assignments will be docked one full letter grade immediately, and one letter grade per 24-hour period thereafter.

**Plagiarism**

It goes without saying that plagiarism will not be tolerated, but you should know that I am less inclined than most to show mercy with respect to this issue. All assignments will be submitted through Sakai and scanned using TurnItIn, a service that does a thorough check for plagiarized material from websites, books, or other students. Should some obstacle arise to prevent you from submitting your work on time, it is *always* better to speak with me (ahead of time!) about the problem rather than trying to explain yourself after something unseemly has been discovered.

**Important Dates**

- Wed., Sept. 3: First day of class
- Wed., Oct. 15: Midterm Exam
- Wed., Nov. 26: NO CLASS
- Wed., Dec. 10: Last day of class
- TBD: Final Exam

**Course Plan**

**WEEK 1 (Sept. 3)**

- **W** Introduction (no assigned reading)

**WEEK 2 (Sept. 8, Sept. 10)**

- **M** Joan Scott, “Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis,” *The American Historical Review* 91(5):1053-1074

- **W** Mary Hawkesworth, “Confounding Gender,” *Signs* 22(3): 649-685

**WEEK 3 (Sept. 15, Sept. 17)**

- **M** Plato, *Republic* (Bk. V)

- **W** Susan Moller Okin, “Introduction” and “Plato” in *WWWPT*

**WEEK 4 (Sept. 22, Sept. 24)**

- **M** Aristotle, *Politics* (selections)

- **W** Susan Moller Okin, “Aristotle” in *WWWPT*
WEEK 5 (Sept. 29, Oct. 1)
M      Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince* (selections)
W      Wendy Brown, “Machiavelli: From Man to Manhood” and “Manhood and the Political World” (on Sakai)

WEEK 6 (Oct. 6, Oct. 8)
W      Nancy Hirschmann, “Hobbes” in *GCFMPT*
      Christine Di Stefano, “Hobbesian (Hu) Man” (on Sakai)

WEEK 7 (Oct. 13, Oct. 15)
M      Review
W      **Midterm Exam**

WEEK 8 (Oct. 20, Oct. 22)
M      John Locke, *Second Treatise* (selections)
W      Nancy Hirschmann, “Locke” in *GCFMPT*
      Carole Pateman, *The Sexual Contract* (selections)

WEEK 9 (Oct. 27, Oct. 29)
M      Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Emile* (selections)
      Mary Wollstonecraft, “A Vindication of the Rights of Women” (selections)
W      Susan Moller Okin, “Rousseau” in *WWPT*
      Nancy Hirschmann, “Rousseau” in *GCFMPT*

WEEK 10 (Nov. 3, Nov. 5)
W      Nancy Hirschmann, “Mill” in *GCFMPT*
WEEK 11 (Nov. 10, Nov. 12)

M Karl Marx, *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts* (selections)
Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (selections)
Friedrich Engels, *The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State* (selections)

W Linda Nicholson, “Feminism and Marx: Integrating Kinship with the Economic” (on Sakai)
Heidi Hartmann, “The Unhappy Marriage of Marxism and Feminism: Toward a More Progressive Union” (on Sakai)
Catherine Mackinnon, “Feminism, Marxism, Method, and the State: An Agenda for Theory” (on Sakai)

WEEK 12 (Nov. 17, Nov. 19)

M Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish* (selections)

W Jana Sawicki, “Queering Foucault and the Subject of Feminism” (on Sakai)

WEEK 13 (Nov. 24, Nov. 26)

M Saba Mahmood, *The Politics of Piety*, ch. 1 (on Sakai)

W NO CLASS

WEEK 14 (Dec. 1, Dec. 3)


W Iris Marion Young, *Justice and the Politics of Difference*, Introduction and ch. 2 (on Sakai)

WEEK 15 (Dec. 8, Dec. 10)

M Isaiah Berlin, “Two Concepts of Liberty”

W Nancy Hirschmann, *The Subject of Liberty*, Introduction, ch. 4, ch. 6 (on Sakai)