

## Classics of Social and Political Thought, III

Social Sciences (SOSC) 15300 – Sections 2 & 5

University of Chicago

Spring Quarter 2009

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*Course Meetings:*

Tues/Thur, 09:00a–10:20a (Section 2)

10:30a–11:50a (Section 5)

Cobb Hall, Room 110

Website: <http://chalk.uchicago.edu/>

*Instructor:* Andrew Dilts

*Office:* Gates-Blake 317

*Office Hours:* Weds, 10:00a–12:00a

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**Course Requirements:** This class is focused around reading, writing, and discussion, and this is reflected in the course requirements:

(1) You will submit **two papers**. Papers **MUST** be formatted and submitted properly in order to receive full credit, as documented in the course paper guidelines, available on Chalk.

(2) Each student will give an in-class **presentation** once during the quarter. Presentations will be no longer than 10 minutes and will follow the presentation guidelines, also available on Chalk.

(3) You must **attend class** and be an **active participant** in discussion. You are required to post a prepared question about the day's reading on the Chalk discussion board by midnight before each class session. Be prepared to present your question at the beginning of class. This is a text-driven course, and as such, you must bring your copy of the day's reading to class.

**Absences:** Absences will only be excused in the case of documented illness or emergency. If there is a conflict between course participation and religious observance, please contact me in advance.

**Late Paper Policy:** Except in documented cases of illness or emergency, late papers will be penalized by 5 percentage points per day. However, each student may, at his or her discretion, take a 24-hour extension for *one* of the papers, no questions asked (If you are using your extension please indicate this on the first page of your paper). Should you find yourself in the position that you have to turn in work late, stay in touch with me! I don't really care *why* your work is late, but you are always better off keeping me posted on what is going on.

**Daily Discussion Questions:** In order to prepare for each class discussion, you will post a reading question to the appropriate section of the Chalk Discussion Board by midnight before class so that everyone who wishes to will have a chance to look over the questions before class. We will use these questions as the basis for our discussion agenda. Be prepared to present your question in class.

A good reading question is one that directly and explicitly engages the text. Your question should cite the appropriate passage, term, or concept that you are puzzled about, as well as offer your interpretation of the passage at hand. It should be focused on something that genuinely puzzles you in the reading, and which you can probably assume that others find puzzling or confusing as well.

**Grades:** Each paper is worth 30% of your grade; the presentation is worth 30%; attendance and participation make up the remaining 10%. *Any student who receives a failing grade for attendance and participation will receive a failing grade for the class. Any student who has not turned in all papers and given a class presentation will receive a failing grade for the class.*

**Plagiarism:** If you think that you need to plagiarize, please come see me. If you think you can get away with it, you are wrong. *Proven plagiarism of any kind may result in automatic failure of the course, and will be referred to the University for further disciplinary action. I reserve the right to submit your electronic document to plagiarism detection websites if necessary.*

### **Required Texts:**

These texts will all be available for purchase from the Seminary Co-Op Bookstore. *These editions of the texts are required.*

- Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, Edited by J.P. Mayer, trans. George Lawrence. New York: Harper Perennial Modern Classics, 2006 [1835/1840]. (ISBN-13: 978-0061127922)
- John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty and Other Essays*, Edited by John Gray. Oxford: Oxford World's Classics, 2008. (ISBN-13: 978-0199535736)
- Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels, *The Marx-Engels Reader*, 2nd ed., Edited by Robert Tucker. New York: W.W. Norton, 1978. (ISBN-13: 978-0393090406)
- Friedrich Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morality*, trans. Clark and Swenson. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1998 [1887]. (ISBN-13: 978-0872202832)
- W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folks*, Edited by Blight & Gooding-Williams Boston: Bedford, 1997 [1903]. (ISBN-13: 978-0312091149)

### **Reading Schedule:**

*[numbers in brackets indicate approx. total number of pages per session]*

#### Alexis de Tocqueville

- 1.1. Tues, March 31: Tocqueville, pp. xiii-xiv; 9-20 [12].
- 1.2. Thur, April 2: Tocqueville, pp. 31-70; 173-208; 220-230. [86]
- 2.1. Tues, April 7: Tocqueville, pp. 231-315. [85]
- 2.2. Thur, April 9: Tocqueville, pp. 316-363; 395-400. [54];  
Sojourner Truth, "Ain't I a Woman?" and "Keeping the Thing  
Going While Things Are Stirring" (e-reserve).

- 3.1. Tues, April 14: Tocqueville, pp. 417–418; 429–436; 503–513; 555–558; 584–603; 665–705 [86];  
Sarah M. Grimke, “Letter VIII: On the Condition of Women in the United States” (e-reserve).

#### J.S. Mill And Harriet Taylor

- 3.2. Thur, April 16: Mill, *On Liberty*, chaps. 1-2; pp. 5–61. [57]

#### ***Monday, April 20: First Paper Due at 5:00pm***

- 4.1. Tues, April 21: Mill, *On Liberty*, chaps. 3-5; pp. 62–128. [67]  
4.2. Thur, April 23: John Stuart Mill and Harriet Taylor Mill “Enfranchisement of Women,”; Elizabeth Cady Stanton, “The Declaration of Sentiments” (e-reserve). [34]

#### Karl Marx

- 5.1. Tues, April 28: Marx, “On the Jewish Question,” pp. 26–52. [27];  
Emma Goldman, “The Tragedy of Women’s Emancipation” (e-reserve).  
5.2. Thur, April 30: Marx, “Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts,” pp. 66–105. [40]  
6.1. Tues, May 5: Marx, *Capital, Volume One*, pp. 302–343. [42]  
6.2. Thur, May 7: Marx, *Capital*, 344–364; 376–384. [30]  
7.1. Tues, May 12: Marx, *Capital*, pp. 417–438 & “Crisis Theory,” pp. 450–465. [38]

#### Friedrich Nietzsche

- 7.2. Thur, May 14: Nietzsche, “Genealogy of Morality,” Preface and First Essay, pp. 1–33. [33]  
8.1. Tues, May 19: Nietzsche, “Genealogy of Morality,” Second Essay, pp. 35–66. [32]  
8.2. Thur, May 21: Nietzsche, “Genealogy of Morality,” Third Essay, pp. 67–118. [32]

#### W.E.B. Du Bois

- 9.1. Tues, May 26: Du Bois, *Souls of Black Folks*, Fore., ch. 1, 3-6; pp. 34–44, 62–102. [51]  
9.2. Thur, May 28: Du Bois, *Souls of Black Folks*, ch. 9-14; pp. 133–195. [63]

#### Simone de Beauvoir/Zadie Smith

- 10.1. Tues, June 2: Simone de Beauvoir, Introduction to *The Second Sex* (e-reserve). [20]  
10.2. Thur, June 4: **Reading Period**, Optional Review Session on Zadie Smith, “Speaking in Tongues” (e-reserve).

#### ***Thursday, June 11: Second Paper Due at 5:00pm***