

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

GOVT 302

MODERN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC IDEAS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Survey of political and economic thought since the 16th century including the Christian influence in the development of modern Western freedom and justice. Emphasis will be placed on the emergence and scope of the disciplines of economics, political science, public administration and public policy.

RATIONALE

The primary purpose of this course is to help the student gain an understanding of the main intellectual influences that have shaped the current political and economic culture. Significant philosophers will be examined from a Christian perspective with particular attention paid to the dangers some intellectuals have posed to a Christian worldview.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. RECOMMENDED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Current ed. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

IV. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment.
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Word and PowerPoint

V. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify the major concepts in modern political and economic philosophies.
- B. Compare modern political and economic philosophies showing where Christianity agrees and differs with the ideas of modern political thinkers.
- C. Analyze political concepts.
- D. Assess the impact various thinkers have had on our current political situations.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (2)

Discussion boards are a collaborative learning experience. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 300 words, demonstrate course-related knowledge, and must include 3 citations in current Turabian format. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 2 classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 50 words. Acceptable sources include the textbooks and the Bible.

- D. Schaeffer Worksheet

The student will watch videos by Dr. Francis Schaeffer about the Reformation. The student will complete a worksheet by answering questions related to the Schaeffer videos.

- E. Activities (2)

The student will complete 2 interactive presentations that apply philosophical concepts to contemporary problems and give a framework for understanding how they contrast to a biblical worldview. In order to receive credit for the assignment, it must be completed in full.

- F. Worldview Worksheet

The student will view a presentation and complete a worksheet by answering questions related to the presentation's content. Answers to the questions must be well-organized and use proper grammar.

- G. Research Paper

The student will write a research paper that demonstrates a mastery of the learned materials by comparing and contrasting the ideas of Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and J. J. Rousseau. The Research Paper must be at least 10 pages (including the title page and bibliography) and in current Turabian format. The student will also write an outline. Each page must contain at least 3 citations from assigned readings and Scripture.

H. Tests (3)

The student will complete 3 tests. The tests cover the course content of the specified modules/weeks. Each test will be open-book/open-notes, contain of 40 multiple-choice and 2 essay questions, and have a 2-hour time limit.

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums (2 at 120 pts ea)		240
Schaeffer Worksheet		100
Activity 1		25
Activity 2		25
Worldviews Worksheet		50
Research Paper		200
Test 1	(Modules 1–2)	120
Test 2	(Modules 3–5)	120
Test 3	(Modules 6–8)	120
	Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

GOVT 302

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Strauss & Cropsey: Selected readings 3 presentations 1 lecture note	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Schaeffer Worksheet	10 0 100
2	Cahn: Selected readings Strauss & Cropsey: Selected readings 1 presentation 1 lecture note	Test 1	120
3	Cahn: Selected readings Strauss & Cropsey: Selected readings 1 presentation 1 lecture note	DB Forum 1	120
4	Cahn: Selected readings Strauss & Cropsey: Selected readings 2 presentations 1 lecture note	DB Forum 2	120
5	Cahn: Selected readings Strauss & Cropsey: Selected readings 1 presentation 1 lecture note	Test 2	120
6	Cahn: Selected readings Strauss & Cropsey: Selected readings 1 presentation 2 websites	Research Paper	200
7	Cahn: Selected readings Strauss & Cropsey: Selected readings 2 presentations 1 lecture note	Activity 1 Activity 2 Worldviews Worksheet	25 25 50
8	Strauss & Cropsey: Selected readings 1 presentation 1 lecture note	Test 3	120
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.