

Lingnan University
Department of Political Science

2nd Term 2009/2010

Office: SO304; Tel: 2616-7184

Lecture: Fridays, 3.30pm-5.30pm

Lecturer & tutor: Dr Wong Yiu-chung (wongyc@ln.edu.hk)

Course Title : Modern Political Ideologies
Course Code : POL 217
Recommended Year of Study: 2 or 3
No. of Credits/Term : Three
Mode of Tuition : Lecture-Tutorial
Class Contact Hours : Two hours lecture, one hour tutorial per week
Category in Major Prog. : Discipline concentration required
Discipline : Political Science

Brief Course Description : The course intends to give students a general introduction of the most important currents in political ideas or thought in the contemporary world. Selected themes in each current of thought will be briefly discussed and apply to the analysis of real world situation both externally and locally as far as possible

Aims : It is expected that students will acquire a basic conceptual understanding of the most important current of political ideas that are shaping the world today.

Learning Outcomes : Students will be able to analyze political developments and social movements around the world through the concepts or ideas acquired in this course.

Indicative Content

- 1) What is Ideology?
 - a) The sources
 - b) The origin
 - c) Contemporary definitions
- 2) The Spectrum of Political Attitudes
 - a) Values
 - b) Radical/moderate/ reactionary spectrum
 - c) Policies
- 3) Liberalism
 - a) Individual freedom
 - b) Social justice
 - c) Constitutional government
- 4) Conservatism
 - a) Tradition
 - b) Organic society
 - c) The new right

- 5) Socialism
 - a) Revolutionary socialism
 - b) Evolutionary socialism
 - c) The crisis of socialism
- 6) Nationalism
 - a) Nation and state
 - b) Anti-colonial nationalism
 - c) Nationalism and internationalism
- 7) Fascism
 - a) The race
 - b) The state
 - c) Totalitarianism
- 8) Feminism
 - a) Early feminism
 - b) Second wave feminism
 - c) Post-feminism
- 9) Ecologism
 - a) Technology versus nature
 - b) The concept of sustainability
 - c) Green politics

Teaching Method : Consists of lectures and tutorials. VCD and video tapes may be shown to students.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes: Final examination, individual or group presentation, discussion, comments on the presentation, and paper.

Assessment : 60% final examination, 40% continuous assessment (paper 15%, presentation 15%, comments & discussion & attendance 10%).

Essential Readings

Baradat, Leon. *Political Ideologies-Their Origins and Impact*. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1997.

Ma, Depu (馬德普), ed. *A History of Western Political Thought-Since the Second World War, volume 5*, (in Chinese). Tienjin remin chubanshe (天津人民出版社), 2005.

Supplementary Readings

Adams, Ian. *Political Ideology Today*, second edition. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2001.

Eatwell, Roger and Anthony Wright, (eds.). *Contemporary Political Ideologies*. Boulder: Westview Press, 1993.

Rejai, Mostafa. *Political Ideologies*, second edition. New York: M.E. Sharpe, 1995.

Sargent, Lyman Tower. *Contemporary Political Ideologies-A Comparative Analysis*, Eighth Edition. Belmont: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company, 1990.

Vincent, Andrew. *Modern Political Ideologies*, second edition. Oxford: Blackwell, 1995.

Tutorial Sessions:

Students in the tutorial sessions are divided into a number of groups. They are required to write a paper on the topics/themes assigned by the lecturer and they are, moreover, required to make an oral presentation in the class about the topics/themes.

Format of the oral presentation and written report:

- 1) The class is divided into a number of groups.
- 3) The length of the written report is about 12 pages (excluding reference) and plagiarism is not allowed and will be punished.
- 4) A4-sized paper should be used and English should be typed in double spacing.
- 5) Written report should be submitted two weeks after oral presentation.
- 6) Written report should include title page, content page and references.
- 7) Late submission should obtain the permission of the lecturer concerned.

Tutorial Topics

To explore the ideological positions of the following local political organizations/ political parties/NGOs in relation to their economic policies, social policies and attitude towards the existing political system of Hong Kong as a whole.

- 1) Hong Kong SAR government
- 2) The Democratic Party (民主黨)
- 3) Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong (民建聯)
- 4) Civic Party (公民黨)
- 5) Liberal Party (自由黨)
- 6) Association for Democracy and People's Livelihood (民協)
- 7) League of Social Democrats (社民連)
- 8) Green Peace (綠色和平)

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