

Lingnan University

Social Science Faculty
Department of Political Science

1st Term 2017/2018

Lectures: Tuesdays, 3.00am -4.50pm

Lecturer and Tutor: Professor Wong Yiu-chung (wongyc@ln.edu.hk)

Office: WYL Bldg. Room 217, Tel: 2616-7130

Course Title : Modern Political Ideologies

Course Code : POL3217

Recommended Year of Study:3rd year or 4th year

No. of Credits/Term : Three

Mode of Tuition : Lecture-Tutorial

Class Contact Hours :Two hours of lecture and 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 thoughts 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 : The course aims to give students a basic conceptual understanding of the most important current of political ideas that are shaping the world today.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):

Upon completion of the course, the students will be able to:

- 1) Introduce to students important trends of political ideas or thoughts in the contemporary world
- 2) Identity the historical/social elements that shape contemporary political ideologies
- 3) Alert students to the fact that abstract ideas may have tremendous impact on the formation of political/social institutions
- 4) Acquaint students with the ideological positions, from ultra-leftist to reactionary rightist, of different governments in the West and East

- 5) Nurture students habit of critical analysis and explore deeper ideological meaning behind every day routine phenomena
- 6) Develop and improve students' skills of argumentative essay writings and oral presentation communication

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 dismantle of socialist movements

6) Nationalism

- a) Nation and state
- b) Anti-colonial nationalism
- c) Nationalism and internationalism

7) Feminism

- a) Early feminism
- b) Second wave feminism
- c) Post-feminism

8) Ecologism

- a) Technology versus nature
- b) The concept of sustainability
- c) Green politics

9) Political Islam

- a) Islamic faith
- b) The Iranian Revolution
- c) The Development of ISIS

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 (report 15%, presentation 15%, comments & discussion & attendance 10%).

The matching of the assessment items and intended learning outcomes is given as follows

	Assessment Tasks				
	Final Examination (60%)	Written Group Report (15%)	Group Oral Presentation (15%)	Attendance and Class Participation (10%)	
Intended Learning Outcomes					
1. Introduce to students important trends of political ideas or thoughts	X			X	
2. Identity the historical/social elements shaping political ideologies	X				
3. Alert students abstract ideas may have tremendous impact on the formation of political/social institutions	X				

4. Acquaint students with the ideological positions of different governments	X				
5. Nurture students habit of critical analysis and explore hidden meanings		X	X	X	
6. Develop and improve students' skills of argumentative essay writings and oral communications	X	X	X	X	

Issue of Plagiarism

Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations.

Essential Readings

Baradat, Leon. P. *Political Ideologies-Their Origins and Impact*. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Prentice-Hall, 2012.

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.

Ball, Terence & Dagger, Richard. *Political Ideologies and The Democratic Ideal*. New York: Pearson Education, Inc. 2004.

Cai Yingwen (蔡英文). *Contemporary Political Thought* (in Chinese), Taipei: Three People's Publishing Ltd, 2009.

McCullough, H.B. *Political Ideologies*. Oxford University Press, 2010.

Sargent, Lyman Tower. *Contemporary Political Ideologies-A Comparative Analysis*,

14th Edition. Wadsworth, Cengage, 2009.

Vincent, Andrew. *Modern Political Ideologies*, second edition. Oxford: Blackwell, 2005.

Tutorial Sessions

Students are allotted into groups, with one student or two or more, depending on class size. Students are required to write a paper on the topics/themes assigned by the lecturer/tutor and they are, moreover, required to make an oral presentation in the class about the topics/themes assigned.

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 15 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 reports should be submitted two weeks after oral presentation.
- 6) Written reports should include title page, content page, footnotes and references.
- 7) Late submission should obtain the permission of the lecturer/tutor concerned, otherwise marks will be deducted.

Penalty for the late submission of term papers

- A) Late submission within five working days of the due date. One grade will be deducted, e.g. B grade will become B-, etc.
- B) Late submission beyond five working days will receive “F” grade for the work.

Tutorial Topics

Students will select one of the following topics for presentation and submit a written report to the lecturer/tutor two weeks after the presentation.

- 1) The concept of ‘ideology’
- 2) ‘New Deal’ in the 1930s (USA)
- 3) Neo-liberal economic policies
- 4) What is ‘Thatcherism’ (UK)?
- 5) The ‘third way/path’ in British politics
- 6) Sweden -Social Democracy

- 7) Nationalism in China
- 8) Global warming theories

Important Notes

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- (3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.

Rubrics for Final Examination

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Meets Minimum Standard	Below Standard	Marks
Comprehension of all the relevant concepts. (40%)	Demonstrates a deep insightful level of understanding (40)	Demonstrates a good surface level of understanding (30)	Demonstrates a fair level of surface understanding (20)	Demonstrates an inadequate level of understanding (0-10)	
Application of concepts to the problem posed. (40%)	Appropriate concepts are all applied correctly, (40)	Most concepts are applied correctly (30)	Some concepts are applied at too general a level or misapplied but the central ones are applied correctly and specifically (20)	Most concepts are applied at too general a level or misapplied (0-10)	
Extent to which ideas are expressed	Expression of ideas is consistently	Expression of ideas is generally	Expression of ideas is comprehensible but	Largely incomprehensible with some major	

logically, accurately and clearly. (10%)	accurate, logical and clear (10)	accurate, logical and clear with some minor lapses (8)	there are some major lapses (6)	inconsistencies and errors (0-3)	
Quality of English. (10%)	English is consistently excellent (10)	English is proficient with no major errors (8)	English conveys the essential meaning but contains a number of errors (6)	English is below acceptable university standard (0-3)	
Total Marks	A(80-100)	B(65-79)	C(50-64)	D(40-49), F(0-39)	

Rubrics for term papers or reports :

Level of Performance	Marks	Criteria
Very Good – Excellent	12-15	<p>Thesis & Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fully addresses the topic/question and demonstrates a thorough understanding of and original insight into the important issues in the topic/question - Skillfully applies a good range of relevant concepts or theories <p>Analysis & Argumentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comprehensively analyzes and synthesizes the issues from multiple perspectives - Evaluates implications and complications or responds to counter-arguments <p>Evidence & Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidence/supporting data is very relevant, accurate, complete, well integrated to support the arguments - Correct citation of sources; provides detailed and proper footnotes/endnotes <p>Writing & Structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excellent organization of various contents - Presents the materials in a cohesive and logical manner
Fair – Good	6 – 11	<p>Thesis & Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrates a complete understanding of the important issues in the topic/question but may miss some minor themes - Attempts to relate theories/concepts <p>Analysis & Argumentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interprets and evaluates information, but may overlook some information - Superficially evaluates obvious alternative points of view, perspectives or dimensions <p>Evidence & Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provides necessary evidence to convince reader of most aspects of the main argument but not all - Correct citation of sources; provides some details in footnotes/endnotes

		<p>Writing & Structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good organization of various contents - Attempt to present the materials in a cohesive and logical manner
Very Poor – Poor	0-5	<p>Thesis & Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrates misconceptions about the important themes or issues - Fails to connect to theories/concepts or real life <p>Analysis & Argumentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrates some basic comprehension of texts/data but does not make connections with the bigger picture - Superficially analyzes or synthesizes the issues <p>Evidence & Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some evidence but not enough to develop argument in unified way - Evidence may be inaccurate, irrelevant, or inappropriate to support the arguments - Incorrect citation of sources; provides limited or no detail in footnotes/endnotes <p>Writing & Structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lacks clarity or does not present ideas in a coherent or analytical manner - Merely copying original writings

Rubrics for tutorial presentations

Level of Performance	Points	Criteria
Very good -excellent	12-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excellent understanding of the topic - Able to show original and critical thinking - Able to associate different ideas - Excellent preparation of the materials e.g., good use of visual aids (slides/handouts) - Able to keep within the time limit - Able to show effective team work - Able to explain and communicate idea(s) clearly and logically - Able to engage audience and handle the discussion - Excellent use of materials - Excellent body language
Fair-good	6-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adequate understanding of the topic - Able to show some original and critical thinking - Adequate preparation of the materials - Able to show some adherence to the time limit - Able to work as a team - Able to explain and communicate idea(s) adequately - Some engagement of audience in the discussion - Appropriate use of materials - Appropriate body language
Very poor-poor	0 – 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of understanding of the topic - Lack of original and critical thinking - Unable to incorporate materials from lectures or suggested readings - Poor preparation of the materials - Unable to adhere to the time limit - Unable to work as a team - Unable to explain and communicate idea(s) - Unable to respond to ideas and comments in the discussion - Inappropriate use of materials - Poor body language

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