

Contemporary Civilization Fall 2022

Instructor: Lam Hui

Class meeting time/place. CC1101 section 7: MW 10:10 am - 12:00 pm, in Hamilton 306.

Where to find me. Pupin 902. Phone: (212) 854-7241. Email: lh399@columbia.edu

URL: <http://user.astro.columbia.edu/~lhui>

Office hours. Monday 3:30 - 4:30 pm and Wednesday 12:30 - 1:30 pm, or by appointment.

Required texts.

- Plato, Republic (Hackett) [3]
- *Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics (Oxford, trs. Ross, Brown)* [2]
- Aristotle, Politics (Hackett) [1]
- *New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha (Oxford)* [2]
- Augustine, City of God (Penguin) [1]
- *The Quran, Abdel Haleem, ed. (Oxford Worlds Classics)* [1]
- Readings on medieval philosophy (CC Reader) [1]
- Aquinas, Law, Morality and Politics (Hackett Classics) [1]
- Christine de Pizan, The Book of the Body Politic (Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought) [1]
- *Machiavelli, The Prince (Oxford Worlds Classics)* [1]
- Readings on conquest of the Americas (CC Reader) [1]
- Readings on Luther (CC Reader) [1]
- *Descartes, Meditations on First Philosophy (Oxford Worlds Classics)* [1]
- Hobbes, Leviathan (the Norton Library, ed. by Hoekstra and Johnston) [2]
- Locke, Political Writings, Wootton, ed. (Hackett) [1]
- Rousseau, The Basic Political Writings (Hackett) [2]

The books in italics are available as e-books on Clio. All books are available in print or electronic form at Book Culture (112th @ Broadway). Supplementary readings will be available on Courseworks (CC Reader).

Students may consider using the Columbia FLI Partnership Library, a collection of textbooks and other course materials available to low-income and/or first-generation students from Columbia University's undergraduate schools. Students can register to borrow materials from the collection for extended loan periods by filling out the FLI Partnership Libraries Access Form. Columbia's FLI Partnership library is located in Butler Library. Barnard also maintains its own FLI Partnership Library in Barnard Library. If you are having difficulty obtaining the required texts for any reason, please let me know or contact the Center for the Core Curriculum: core-curriculum@columbia.edu.

Requirements.

- *Attendance is mandatory.* Students who miss class without instructor permission should expect to have their grade lowered. More than four unexcused absences will result in a failing grade. If you are absent from class, even for legitimate reasons, you will be expected to complete an extra assignment.
- *Preparation for and participation in class.* This is the most important component of CC, which is a discussion seminar. Reading ahead of class meetings and active participation in discussion are crucial for making this a rewarding experience for everyone. To help us focus, please turn off all phone and internet connections during class.
- *Discussion posts.* Each Sunday by 9 pm (12 Sundays in all from Sep. 10 to Nov. 26), submit a discussion post on Courseworks. The post should be a single paragraph discussing one important issue you think is raised by the texts of the week. Your post will help inform discussions on Monday and Wednesday. Think about the assumptions, tensions and implications of the texts, and possible connections to other materials covered in the class.
- *One short essay.* This is a 2-page commentary on a passage selected from the readings. Identify and evaluate the main argument in the passage. The short essay is due on September 28.
- *One long essay.* This is a 6-page essay on a topic of your own choice. I will go over your first draft with you. The essay is due on December 5.
- *Midterm and Final.* These two short exams will test your knowledge of the ideas and texts discussed in the semester. The midterm exam will be held on October 26. The final exam will be on December 12.

The distribution is as follows: discussion posts (15 %), participation (25 %), short essay (15 %), long essay (25 %), midterm (10 %), final (10 %). There will be a policy of a total of 7 grace days for the semester, which are essentially your personal extensions. Use them as you see fit for the discussion posts or for the essays.

Academic honesty and integrity. I expect you to know what academic honesty and integrity means. See <https://www.college.columbia.edu/academics/academicintegrity>. In particular, plagiarism is unacceptable. Proper attribution of work, even unpublished work, written by others is expected.

Some useful resources.

The Writing Center. <https://www.college.columbia.edu/core/uwp/writing-center> 310 Philosophy Hall. uwp@columbia.edu or (212) 854-3886.

Academic Success Programs. <http://www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/asp> asp@columbia.edu or (212) 854-3514.

Counseling and Psychological Services. <https://health.columbia.edu/counseling-and-psychological-services> Emergencies: (212) 854-2878. Columbia: (212) 854 2284; Barnard (212) 854-2092. Lerner Hall, eighth floor, 2920 Broadway.

Disability Services. <https://health.columbia.edu/disability-services> disability@columbia.edu or (212) 854 2388.