

## COURSE DETAIL

### THE HISTORY OF WESTERN POLITICAL IDEAS I: FROM PLATO TO C1700

**Country**

United Kingdom - England

**Host Institution**

King's College London

**Program(s)**

King's College London

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Political Science Philosophy History

**UCEAP Course Number**

174

**UCEAP Course Suffix**

A

**UCEAP Official Title**

THE HISTORY OF WESTERN POLITICAL IDEAS I: FROM PLATO TO C1700

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

HIST/WEST POL IDEAS

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

4.00

**Course Description**

This course introduces students to the key texts, arguments, and controversies in European political thought from ancient Greece to the end of the 17th century. This is based on the close reading of classic and complex texts, situated in their broader intellectual and historical context. A single canonical thinker – such as Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes or Locke – will typically be central to each week’s teaching, but these thinkers are read in relation to the political environments that shaped them and the debates in which they participated. Where possible these key thinkers are considered alongside the work of other thinkers as well as other relevant primary texts. Students explore the early development of key ideas and issues – such as kingship, natural rights’, republicanism, and the relationship between church and state – that have formed, and continue to form, the conceptual bedrock of Western social and political debate.

**Language(s) of Instruction**

English

**Host Institution Course Number**

5AAH1001

**Host Institution Course Title**

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**Host Institution Course Details**

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/abroad/module-options/the-history-of-western-political-id...>

**Host Institution Campus****Host Institution Faculty****Host Institution Degree**

## **Host Institution Department**

History

## **Course Last Reviewed**

2024-2025

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