

COURSE DETAIL

POLITICAL THEORY IN THE ATLANTIC WORLD

Country

France

Host Institution

Sciences Po Reims

Program(s)

Sciences Po Reims

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Political Science

UCEAP Course Number

121

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

POLITICAL THEORY IN THE ATLANTIC WORLD

UCEAP Transcript Title

POL THEORY ATLANTIC

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This course is dedicated to the political theory of comparative modernities, engaging with debates about the fractured character of modern experiences both through canonical texts of Euro-American Enlightenment and those traditions that emerged against its underside in slavery and imperialism in the “Black Atlantic”. The course program is structured around three revolutionary moments: the American Revolution, the French Revolution, and the Haitian Revolution. The course covers texts that informed these events or emerged as a response to them—some of them fueled by a commitment to emancipatory change, others vehemently opposed to the violent upheaval they entailed. Readings stretch from texts in the political theory canon (Locke, Hegel, Burke, and Marx), to minoritarian sources from within the Euro-American tradition (including American abolitionist Frederick Douglass and French revolutionary Olympe de Gouges), to an engagement with oral traditions at the margins of Western intellectual history, such as those of maroon slaves. In reading theories of revolution and empire in the Atlantic world, the course attends to the silences within canonical texts, while assessing the relevance and potential that Enlightenment thought might still hold today. Drawing on recent debates about comparative political theory and the imperial turn in the history of ideas, this class is meant to both engage with and problematize the Euro-American theory canon in ways that speak to issues of class, race, and gender.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

18692

Host Institution Course Title

POLITICAL THEORY IN THE ATLANTIC WORLD

Host Institution Campus

Seminar

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
International Affairs & Strategy

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