

# COURSE DETAIL

## HISTORY OF POLITICAL THOUGHT

**Country**

United Kingdom - England

**Host Institution**

University College London

**Program(s)**

University College London

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Political Science History

**UCEAP Course Number**

146

**UCEAP Course Suffix**

N

**UCEAP Official Title**

HISTORY OF POLITICAL THOUGHT

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

HIST POLIT THOUGHT

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

**Course Description**

Contemporary political debate remains indebted to concepts and arguments developed in the history of political thought. This course explores this history by examining a select number of signal figures and movements in the history of modern Western political thought. Students engage in close, critical reading of canonical texts. Students learn how to accurately interpret and critically evaluate the arguments in those texts, and thereby learn how to deal with the legacy those arguments have left for contemporary debates.

Thinkers to be studied might range from the well-known and canonical to the lesser-known and unjustly neglected. Possible figures might include: Thomas Hobbes, Montesquieu, David Hume, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Catharine Macaulay, Ottobah Cugoana, Olaudah Equiano, Olympe de Gouges, Mary Wollstonecraft, G. W. F. Hegel, Flora Tristan, J. S. Mill, Frederick Douglass, and Karl Marx. Possible movements to be examined include: social contract theory; natural rights theory; republicanism and civic virtue; feminism and the rights of women; socialism and the emancipation of workers; and abolitionism and the emancipation of slaves.

**Language(s) of Instruction**

English

**Host Institution Course Number**

POLS0097

**Host Institution Course Title**

HISTORY OF POLITICAL THOUGHT

**Host Institution Campus**

University College London

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

**Host Institution Department**

Political Science

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