COURSE DETAIL

HISTORY OF WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT
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
UCEAP Course Number 172
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title HISTORY OF WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT
UCEAP Transcript Title WESTERN POL THOUGHT
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

This course introduces students to some central figures in the history of political thought: Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Rousseau, Marx, and Schmitt. Students look at why they wrote what they wrote, what they meant, and how well their arguments work. They ask why they give different answers to questions such as: What does it mean to be truly free? Is democracy possible or desirable? Should we educate citizens, or take them as they are? Are there absolute moral truths, and what sort of politics should we have in light of that? What rights do we have? What place should religion have in politics? Should citizens dedicate themselves to the state? The course particularly suits students who enjoy political theory and the history of political thought. There is *a lot* of reading, and much of it is very challenging. Great emphasis is put on understanding primary texts, which are usually dense and difficult.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
5SSPP202

Host Institution Course Title
HISTORY OF WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.kcl.ac.uk/abroad/module-options/history-of-political-thought-1

Host Institution Campus
King's College London

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Political Economy

Course Last Reviewed
2022-2023

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