I. ASCRC General Education Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>VIII  Ethics and Human Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dept/Program</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>PSC150</td>
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</tbody>
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II. Endorsement/Approvals

Complete the form and obtain signatures before submitting to Faculty Senate Office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please type / print name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>Ramona Grey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone / Email</td>
<td>2721; ramona.grey@umontana</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Chair</td>
<td>James Lopach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>Jerry Fetz</td>
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III. Description and purpose of the course:

General Education courses must be introductory and foundational. They must emphasize breadth, context, and connectedness; and relate course content to students’ future lives: See Preamble:

http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/gened/GEPreamble_final.htm

Introduction to Political Theory (PSC 150) familiarizes students with the basic concepts, principles, and issues that have preoccupied the political theorist, including the origins of government and society, the nature of justice and the good life, and the meaning of the public and the private.

This courses begins by considering the tension between politics and philosophy and continue with an examination of the major political philosophies— liberalism, conservatism, Marxism, feminism etc.— that have shaped our modern discourse concerning political values. We will conclude with the "end of ideology" debate

IV. Criteria: Briefly explain how this course meets the criteria for the group. See:

http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/ASCRCx/Adocuments/GE_Criteria5-1-08.htm

This introductory level course familiarizes students with Platonic, utilitarian, liberal, socialist and other feminist conceptions of justice, the nature of oppression, the criteria for legitimate exercises of authority. Each of these political perspectives are also examined with regards to their assumptions about human beings as ethical actors.

V. Student Learning Goals: Briefly explain how this course will meet the applicable learning goals. See:

http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/ASCRCx/Adocuments/GE_Criteria5-1-08.htm
**Course Objectives:** upon successfully completing the course work, the student should be able to:


2. Identify major themes and ideas associated with the ideologies of utopianism, classical and reform liberalism, utilitarianism, conservatism, Marxism, feminism as well as contemporary variations such as neo-Marxism and post-modern feminism.

3. Provide an interpretative, critical essay on a dystopian novel, examining how the ethical ideas of western political thinkers, including Plato, are satirized and/or negated. (See attached Paper Guidelines)

**VII. Syllabus:** Paste syllabus below or attach and send digital copy with form. The syllabus should clearly describe how the above criteria are satisfied. For assistance on syllabus preparation see: [http://teaching.berkeley.edu/bgd/syllabus.html](http://teaching.berkeley.edu/bgd/syllabus.html)

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**University of Montana**  
**Department of Political Science**

**PSC 150E**  
**Fall 2008**  
MWF 11:10-12pm  
TAs.: Laura Douglas & Jeffrey David

**Dr. Grey**  
Office: LA 353  
Phone: 243-2105  
Email: ramona.grey@umontana.edu  
Office Hrs: T/Thr 2-3; Wed 12-1. LA 353

**Introduction to Political Theory**

**Course Description:**  
Introduction to Political Theory (PSC 150) familiarizes students with the basic
concepts, principles, and issues that have preoccupied the political theorist, including the origins of government and society, the nature of justice and the good life, and the meaning of the public and the private.

We will begin by considering the tension between politics and philosophy and continue with an examination of the major political philosophies—liberalism, conservatism, Marxism, feminism etc.—that have shaped our modern discourse concerning political values. We will conclude with the "end of ideology" debate. In other words, what does it mean to you when someone says that "today it is no longer possible to construct a genuine political philosophy"?

**Texts:**
- Plato, *The Republic*
- Aristotle, *Politics*
- Huxley, *Brave New World*
- Marx & Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*
- FAC PAC #A: Western Political Theory; FAC PAC #B Political Ideas on Women

**Course Objectives:** upon successfully completing the course work, the student should be able to:


2. Identify major themes and ideas associated with the ideologies of utopianism, classical and reform liberalism, utilitarianism, conservatism, Marxism, feminism as well as contemporary variations such as neo-Marxism and post-modern feminism.

3. Provide an interpretative, critical essay on a dystopian novel, examining how the ethical ideas of western political thinkers, including Plato, are satirized and/or negated. (See attached Paper Guidelines)

**Grading:**
The work of the course consists of reading all assignments, attending lectures, completing the scheduled *two-part midterm* (30% of course grade), and the *final* (35% of course grade.) In addition, each student must complete on time a *critical essay* of Huxley’s *Brave New World* (35% of course grade.) Attendance will not be taken, but students who regularly attend class and ask questions usually have good lecture notes. Please see attached for instructions on the Huxley paper.

- Making up midterms, the final and later paper policy: Students must have a doctor’s note, funeral notice, or letter from a coach to make up the midterms and final. Late Huxley papers will receive a grade reduction for every day it’s late.
- Please see me and UM catalog p. 21 for criteria on Incomplete Grades.
### Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Read:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/25</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course</td>
<td>Plato, <em>The Republic</em>, Book I &amp; II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/27</td>
<td>Plato’s Indictment</td>
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<td>**                       Labor Day September 1st No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/3</td>
<td>Plato's Organic Theory of the State</td>
<td><em>The Republic</em>, Book V</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/8-10</td>
<td>Possibility of the Ideal State: the Ship &amp; Cave Allegories</td>
<td><em>The Republic</em>, Book VII</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/12</td>
<td>Decline of the Ideal State</td>
<td><em>The Republic</em>, Books VIII &amp; IX</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/15</td>
<td>Plato v. Aristotle</td>
<td><em>Politics</em>, Book II</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17</td>
<td>Aristotle: Politics As Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/19</td>
<td>Review &amp; Discussion of Plato</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>**                       Monday, September 22nd Midterm Part I: Plato’s Republic**</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/24</td>
<td>Aristotle: Politics As Science Cont.</td>
<td><em>Politics</em>, Book I</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/26</td>
<td>Aristotle's Biological Analysis: Family, Village, Polis</td>
<td><em>Politics</em>, Book III</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/29-10/1</td>
<td>Aristotle's Classification of Constitutions</td>
<td><em>Politics</em>, Book IV</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/3-10/6</td>
<td>Aristotle on Revolution</td>
<td><em>Politics</em>, Book V</td>
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<td>**                       **</td>
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10/8 Classical Liberalism: Introduction

10/10 Review & Discuss Aristotle

**Monday, October 13th Midterm Part II: Aristotle’s Politics**


10/17 Classical Liberalism: Locke & Revolution
Read: FAC PAC, vol. A section from Locke’s *Two Treatises on Government*

10/20- Classical Liberalism: Locke & Property Rights
10/22 Read: FAC PAC, vol. A section from Locke

+++Start reading Huxley *Brave New World.*

10/24 Classical Liberalism: Smith & "the Automatic Social Mechanism"
Read: FAC PAC, vol. A section from Smith

10/27- Utilitarianism & John Stuart Mill
10/29 Read: FAC PAC vol. A, selections from J.S. Mill’s *Democratic Participation; Liberty & the Individual*

10/31 Reform Liberalism: John Dewey & T.H. Green
Read: FAC PAC vol. A. selections from T.H. Green

11/3 Liberal Feminism
Read: FAC PAC vol. B selections from Wollstonecraft, J.S. Mill, De Beauvoir, Friedan

11/5- Conservatism: Edmund Burke & the Critique of Political Idealism
11/7 Read: FAC PAC vol. A., selections from Burke, Wordsworth, Oakeshott

11/10 Conservative Feminism
Read: FAC PAC vol. B selections from Aristotle, Pluarch, Augustine, Aquinas

11/12- Radicalism: Marx's Critique of Liberalism & Conservatism
11/14 Read: FAC PAC vol. A. selections from Engels’ *Socialism: Utopian & Scientific*
11/17 If we are on schedule, then TAs will lead class discussion on the Huxley essay.

* * * * * * * * Wednesday November 19th Huxley Essay Due * * * * * * * *

11/19 Radicalism: Marxism & the "Earthquake Theory" of Revolution
Read: FAC PAC vol. A selection from Marx’s & Engels The Communist Manifesto

11/21- Neo-Marxism: the Orthodox School vs. Revisionists
11/24 Read: FAC PAC vol. A selections from Bernstein’s Evolutionary Socialism;
*Karl Kautsky, * Rosa Luxemburg; *George V. Plekhanov

* * * * * * * * November 26-30 Thanksgiving Break * * * * * * * * * * * *

12/1 Neo-Marxism: Lenin,
Read: FAC PAC vol., A selections from Lenin’s Imperialism;

12/1- End of Ideology Debate
12/3 Read: FAC PAC vol. A. selections from Fukuyama’s End of History

12/5 Review/Questions for Final

* * * * Final Friday, 8am-10am December 12th * * * * * * * *

Guidelines for Essay

"Brave New World: Politics & Society in the Year 2008?"
(35% of course grade: see attached sheet)

Format: Essay should comprise 5-6 typed, double-spaced pages; please use 12-10 pt. font.

I. Purpose

A. Objective: Provide an analytical essay comparing and contrasting the ideas/themes found in Brave New World with the political theories we have covered in the course. An interpretive essay is not a book review or an editorial. A good essay supports its analysis with direct references to the novel, showing the extent Huxley borrows, satirizes, and/or negates the ideas of other western political thinkers.

II. Content
A. Description & Thesis (10% of essay value)

Do not provide more than a cursory description of the content of Huxley’s *Brave New World*. Assume that the reader is familiar with the plot of the book. (No more than one paragraph.) Provide clear thesis, indicated with themes, thinkers, works will be used for analysis.

B. Analysis (55% of essay value)

This part of the paper should constitute the major portion of your work. Look for the *ideas* that Huxley draws upon in terms of ideologies covered in class. Can you identify radical, conservative, and/or liberal ideas in his model community? (To what degree does Huxley mock Plato’s notion of justice?)

Also consider: What are the underlying assumptions about human nature? What is the role of the state? And what role does political ideology (Fordism?) play in Huxley's novel? What is the value system of the society? (Look at, for instance, the education system of the different classes: what are they taught, if anything, regarding the party doctrine, slogans, and history?)* What are the sources of discontent among the inhabitants? (* These questions are only a suggested list to help you get started, but do not feel confined to only them.)

C. Conclusion: (30% of essay value)

Does Huxley convince the reader that this dystopia is possible or inevitable? Do you see things in our present society that might lead to Huxley's *Brave New World*? And if not, why not?

D. Planning

Provide space for the summary at the end. In other words, do not spend 4 1/2 pages on analysis and 1/2 page on your conclusion. I am looking for your ability to come to logical conclusions and provide analysis.

II. Style (5% of essay value)

A. Additional Reading

You may want to do some additional reading to substantiate your positions for parts IB and IC. However, this is not necessary. You will probably be better served by reviewing lecture and discussion notes, not to mention reading Skinner’s work carefully.

B. Quotations

All quotations or paraphrasing in your work from any material must be
enclosed in quotation marks and properly cited as to their origin. (See a writing manual for consistent format.)

C. Bibliography

You should include a complete bibliography for all outside books used for this paper (including webpages). Please avoid citing Wikipedia or giving the reader dictionary definitions.

D. Editing:

Be sure to edit and proof your final copy. Points will be deducted for grammatical and spelling errors.

PSC150E: Introduction to Political Theory
Fall 2008

Description & Thesis – 10% (3.5 points)

- Clear and coherent thesis statement
- Relevant to materials presented in lectures and throughout course materials

Analysis – 55% (20 points)

- Strong supporting evidence of the thesis
- Relevant information is clearly presented
- Fully developed arguments
- Credit is given to outside sources, where appropriate

Conclusion — 30% (7.5 points)

- Conclusion: a clear restatement of the answer to the central question

Format, Mechanics & Bibliography 5% (4 pts)

- Format: 5-6 typed, double-spaced pages, 10-12 point font
- Grammar: Neatness, spelling, grammar, punctuation, and organization
- Bibliography: Follows Chicago/Turabian citation style guidelines

TOTAL (35 points)

Additional Comments:
**Please note: As an instructor of a general education course, you will be expected to provide sample assessment items and corresponding responses to the Assessment Advisory Committee.**