

Political Philosophy 2: Enlightenment to Communitarianism

7.1 Module Overview									
Module Number		Module Title	Political Philosophy 2: Enlightenment to Communitarianism						
Stage of Principal Programme			2/3	Semester	2	Duration. (Weeks F/T)	12	ECTS	5
Mandatory / Elective (M/E)	E Core	Hours of Learner Effort / Week	2						
Analysis of required hours of learning effort									
Teaching and Learning Modalities					✓if relevant to this module	Approx. proportion of total (hours)			
Contact Hours									
In person face-to-face					✓	24			
Synchronous									
Indirect/Non-Contact Hours									
Asynchronous									
Work Based									
Other:									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> independent reading, research and preparation of assessments 					✓	101			
Total						125			

Pre-Requisite Module, if any. Module # and Title	N/A
Co-Requisite Module, if any. Module # and Title	N/A
Maximum number of learners per instance of the module	120
Specification of the qualifications (academic, pedagogical and professional/occupational) and experience required of staff working in this module.	
Role e.g., Tutor, Mentor, Lecturer, Research Supervisor, etc.	Qualifications & experience required
Lecturer	A minimum level 9 qualification in Philosophy or closely cognate area
Staff - Learner Ratio X:Y	
	1:120

Assessment Techniques – percentage contribution					
Continuous Assessment	100%	Proctored Exam – in person		Practical Skills Based	
Project		Proctored Exam - online		Work Based	
Capstone (Y/N)?	Y	If Yes, describe	The capstone is a large piece of assessment that allows the learner to demonstrate the range of skills and knowledge they have developed in the subject over the course of the programme. It provides scope for the learner to showcase their own research and ideas on the topic.		

7.2 Minimum Intended Module Learning Outcomes (MIMLOs)	
MIMLO On completion of this module a learner will be able to:	Related MIPLO #
1. Identify the main issues in the political philosophy of the period – the priority of individual or state, relations between the individual and the state, legitimacy of government as they are addressed by each thinker.	1-8
2. Be able to critically assess the contribution of each philosopher to the progression of those main themes and their place in the larger context of the history of ideas.	1, 2, 4, 8
3. Understand the relationship between the thought of an individual philosopher as emerging from its relationship to other thinkers of the period and its engagement with and effect on the ideas of society, the individual and ideas and attitudes toward the notion of state.	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8

7.3 Indicative Module Content, Organisation and Structure
<p>The key focus of the module is to trace the development of European political philosophy from the defining period of Social Contract theory and the various communitarian responses to it from Hegel to contemporary autonomous Marxism. The central theme is the articulation of philosophical thought between the various strains of organicism and of atomistic individualism. Between these two poles each thinker will be assessed in relation to their contribution to the debate of defining the relationship between the state and the individual. Each philosopher will be regarded in terms of both their original contribution and where their thought is placed within the development of political philosophy in their time period. The module assesses the emergence of the concepts of equality and its impact on notions of diversity. The learner will be encouraged to critically engage with contemporary issues in society through the lens of this period of political philosophy. The module explores the relationship between state and individual through an exploration of key figures in the debate between the liberal democratic republic and communitarian expressions of the relationship. Gender and particularly, class, will be addressed.</p> <p>Below is an indicative structure of the module content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The problem of political authority: Kant’s social contract theory examined. • Hegel: The Idea of Freedom, the individual and society as false dichotomy and the critique of the Social contract. • Marxist theories of state: Marx and Lenin: the dictatorship of the proletariat and the withering away of the state. • Negri and Autonomous Marxist theory: the weakness of the traditional Marxist subject-object divide and the subsumption of life to work in globalised capital. <p>The structure of the module layout allows learners to chronologically assess the development of thought from the Social Contract priority of individual over the claims of social collectivity as expressed in Enlightenment thinking from semester one through to the emergence of communitarian critiques of the assumptions underlying these expressions.</p> <p>This process of learning will be delivered in weekly, two-hour lectures over a twelve-week period.</p>

7.4 Work-based learning and practice-placement (if applicable)
N/A

7.5 Specific module resources required (if applicable)
N/A

7.6 Application of programme teaching, learning and assessment strategies to this module

The content of the module is delivered through the format of lectures. The lecturer focuses on the delivery of material through critical analysis and dialogue, drawing out the implications of central ideas and through text, video, PowerPoint, and dedicated Q&A end of lecture sessions. In line with the principles of UDL, all material relevant to the learner will be available at the appropriate time on the Moodle module page. The final essay assessment will offer the learner the opportunity to demonstrate learning across the module both in terms of individual thinkers and also overall themes.

7.7 Summative Assessment Strategy for this module

MIMLOs	Technique(s)	Weighting
1-3	Major essay: This major essay title will ask the learner convey their understanding of the overall theme(s) of the module. The essay title will be constructed in such a manner that allows the learner to indicate their understanding of individual thinkers within the overall theme(s) of the module material.	90%
N/A	Attendance	10%

7.8 Sample Assessment Materials

Sample Essay Questions:

1. Social contract theory suggests that people enter into society as fully formed individuals to satisfy their pre-social needs. Thus the state is always regarded as a necessary evil. Discuss how this idea is mapped out in the political philosophy of Kant. How does Hegel's position differ? In answering this question please feel free to refer to other Social Contract thinkers you have encountered on this course. 3,000–4,000 words.
2. Hegel argued that social contract theory misrepresented the relationship between society and individual. Outline Hegel's criticisms of social contract theory using those contract theorists you have encountered in this module.

Marking of assessments will be in line with the Marking Assessment Guidelines as outlined in Section 3.3 of the College's [Regulations in Relation to Assessment and Standards](#) unless otherwise indicated.

7.9 Indicative reading lists and other information resources

Indicative Core Reading:

Hegel, Georg W. F., A. W. Wood and H. B. Nisbet, *Elements of the Philosophy of Right* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991).

Hegel, Georg W. F., L. W. Dickey, L.W. and Nisbet, H. B., *Hegel: Political Writings* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1999).

Kant, I., and H. S. Reiss, *Kant: Political Writings* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991).

Lenin, Vladimir, I. and R. W. Service, *The State and Revolution* (London: Penguin Twentieth-Century Classics, 1992).

Marx, Karl and Engels, Friedrich, *Communist Manifesto* (Oxford: Oxford World Classics, 2004).

Negri, A. and M. Boscagli, M., *Insurgencies: Constituent Power and the Modern State* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1999).

Other Reading:

Green, Karen, *A History of Women's Political Thought in Europe, 1700-1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014)

Losurdo, Domenico, *Liberalism: A Counter-History*, trans Gregory Elliott (London: Verso Books, 2014)

Readings are provided topic by topic on the module Moodle site available to learners from the beginning of the module.