

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

CCHU9068: Shaping our World: Liberalism, Socialism and Nationalism

First Semester 2021-22

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Course Logistics:

Prof. Wong's videotaped lectures are available online and transcribed lecture notes will be uploaded as the course progresses.

Dr. Vera Yuen will conduct the term paper class on how to prepare the proposal and fulfil the requirements of the term paper on 25 September 2021.

Students are required to attend weekly tutorials.

Face-to-face mode:

Prof. Wong will conduct face-to-face lectures in class
Lecture Schedule: Saturday 8:30 – 10:20 am
Lecture Room: KB223

Mr. Choi will conduct interactive small-class face-to-face tutorials. Attendance is required.

We use a course management system named MOODLE. Please login to your HKU Portal account to access MOODLE. For further details, please refer to the "MOODLE Instruction Guide" that is posted on our MOODLE website.

Course Description:

This course introduces students to liberalism, socialism and nationalism as a complex set of very powerful ideologies that have influenced the political, economic and cultural development of Europe, and, subsequently, the world. These ideas ushered in the era of economic growth with the rise of the markets and commerce. We are now today all living at

a time of rapid change and disruption when all these ideas are being once again re-examined and reconfigured.

Liberalism places the value of individual freedoms at the center of all things and spawned the core concepts of liberty, equality, and individual rights. Socialism gave rise to concepts like fraternity, a community of workers, and concerns with the distribution of wealth. Nationalism places identity and recognition with the nation-state, and, sometimes, on particular groups within the nation as the source of political power. We will explore the intellectual mainsprings of these movements through excerpts from their writings, as Hobbes, Locke, Hume, Smith, Rousseau, Burke, Montesquieu, Kant, Hegel, Mill, Tocqueville, Marx, Lenin, Nietzsche, Schmitt, Heidegger, Kojève, Strauss, Schumpeter, Keynes, Friedman, Hayek, Nozick, Rawls, Marcuse, Foucault, Isaiah Berlin and Mark Lilla. Students will be asked to engage in discussion of how these ideas have continued to shape their own lives today.

All three ideologies gave birth to social movements – violent and peaceful – across the world. Together, they have shaped the modern world of nation-states and market economies, emigration and immigration, human rights and terrorism, economic crises and world wars. The apparent triumph of liberalism in 1989 now appears less certain, but its revolutionary vision to sweep away entrenched and protected privileges remains a vital body of ideas.

Each ideology has reacted to an increasingly integrated economic and technological world, and to each other over the course of history. Their enduring influence and continued relevance make them worthy subjects of study for comprehending the world in which we all live. A significant omission is the fourth ideology Conservatism that will only be briefly discussed in the context of the French Revolution.

Aims:

The course helps students to:

- (1) Critically appreciate the core ideas of liberalism, socialism and nationalism in the past and the present;
- (2) Critically appreciate the power and limits of liberalism;
- (3) Be knowledgeable about the many obvious and subtle threats to liberalism, especially that of socialism and nationalism; and
- (4) Be knowledgeable about challenges and alternatives to liberalism and the adaptability of liberalism.

Prerequisite:

There is none.

Assessment Tasks:

Assessment Method	Assignment	Weighting	Alignment with CIOs
Quizzes	Five short online quizzes to test understanding of lectures and reading materials, each	50%	1, 2, 3, 4

	contributing 10% of the final grade.		
Written paper	Expository essay of 1500 words.	50%	1, 2, 3, 4

There are two assessment requirements for this course: (1) five quizzes (50%) covering topics taught in the course, and (2) a written paper of 1500 words (50%). The course grade 100% is determined as the sum of two assessment requirements. Each failure to attend small-class tutorials will result in a deduction of 1% from the total score up to a maximum of 8%.

Quizzes:

Five online quizzes will be posted in MOODLE for students to complete. Each question requires students to provide an answer of a few hundred words on course material taught in class. **Word limits** apply and will be specified for each quiz. Quizzes are released at least one week before due date. They are open-book quizzes. Late submissions will **NOT** be accepted. You must complete and submit every quiz. Failure to submit ANY ONE quiz means you have FAILED 50% of the entire course.

Tentative schedule of the online quizzes are as follows:

Quiz	Materials covered	Due date
1	Until Week 3	26 Sep 2021
2	Until Week 6	17 Oct 2021
3	Until Week 9	7 Nov 2021
4	Until Week 12	21 Nov 2021
5	All	5 Dec 2021

Written Paper

The written paper should examine in depth a specific topic studied in the course. It should be a thoughtful examination of a topic discussed in this course based on the lectures and materials assigned in the reading list. There is **NO** need to consult additional reading materials. Students should **NOT** work on a subject from another course. Here are some good approaches:

- (1) Write a summary/review of one of the lecture-topics in this course.
- (2) Compare and contrast the discussion on a common subject matter between two lecture-topics.
- (3) Write on a subject matter that is discussed in several lecture-topics.
- (4) Consult with the instructor or tutor for advice in deciding on a topic, she will also organize term paper sessions during normal lecture time for this purpose.

The final written paper is due on **Sunday, 5 December 2021**, which is during the revision period and one week after classes have ended. Late submissions will **NOT** be accepted. A precise word

count must be given at the end of the paper. Footnotes and references should be placed at the end of the paper so that they can be excluded from the word count. Appendices are not necessary and not appropriate for papers of such a short length and should not be submitted. It is advisable to seek English language assistance if needed to ensure that your paper is clear.

Eight weeks before the deadline for the final paper, students **must** submit a **half-page proposal** of the paper they intend to write. The deadline for the proposal is before the start of Reading Week on **Sunday, 10 October 2021**. Late submissions will not be allowed. Students should include in the proposal the title of the project and a short summary of the subject they will investigate. If your proposal was not approved you will be notified and must submit another one within one week. Your final written paper must be on the approved proposal. If you subsequently wish to change your proposal you must submit a revised proposal for approval. Students should include in the proposal student name, student number, the title of the project and a short summary of the subject they will investigate.

Students are also encouraged to submit a first draft of the final paper for the instructors to provide feedback, but this is optional, not mandatory. If students choose to submit a first draft, they must do so at least 3 weeks before the deadline for the final paper on **Sunday, 4 November 2021**. Your grade on the paper will depend only on your final paper, and not your draft. If you submit a written paper, but DID NOT submit a proposal or the proposal was NOT APPROVED, then you have FAILED this part of the assessment.

Therefore, **deadlines** to be observed:

Proposal submission	—	Sunday, 10 October 2021
First draft (optional) submission	—	Sunday, 14 November 2021
Final paper submission	—	Sunday, 5 December 2021

The proposal and paper(s) **must** be submitted electronically via MOODLE.

Class Attendance

Class attendance for both interactive classes and tutorials are mandatory. Students who miss class each time without a prior medical certificate will receive 1% penalty point in the final grade.

In all online classes, students are required to indicate their full name and turn on their camera for attendance taking purpose.

Course Syllabus:

Reading List

Required readings are marked with an asterisk; others are optional.

Michael Rosen and Jonathan Wolff, *Political Thought (Oxford Readers)*, Oxford University Press, 1999.

Mitchell Cohen and Micole Fermon (eds.), *Princeton Readings in Political Thought*, Princeton University Press, 1996.

Harvey C. Mansfield, *A Student's Guide to Political*, Intercollegiate Studies Institute Books, 2001.

1. Ideologies for a Modern World

- *Lecture Note 01: Introduction to Ideologies for a Modern World

2. Reason and Faith: From the Classics and Medievalists to the Enlightenment

- *Lecture Note 02: Reason and Faith: From the Classics and Medievalists to the Enlightenment
- Niccolo Machiavelli-The Servility of the Moderns [excerpts]

3. Hobbes and Locke: Social Contract and the Individualistic Origin of Power

- *Lecture Note 03: Hobbes on the Absolute Sovereign and Locke on Limited Government and Tolerance
- Thomas Hobbes-The State of Nature [excerpts]
- Thomas Hobbes-Creating Leviathan [excerpts]
- Thomas Hobbes-The Misery of the Natural Condition of Mankind [excerpts]
- John Locke-Express and Tacit Consent [excerpts]
- John Locke-Labour as the Basis of Property [excerpts]
- John Locke-Legislative, Executive, and Federative Powers [excerpts]
- John Locke-Political Power [excerpts]
- John Locke-The Futility of Intolerance [excerpts]
- John Locke-The state of Nature and the State of War [excerpts]

4. Hume on Scepticism and Montesquieu on Political Liberalism

- *Lecture Note 04: Hume on Scepticism and Montesquieu on Political Liberalism
- David Hume-Moral Distinctions Not Derived From Reason [excerpts]
- David Hume-The Irrelevance of Consent [excerpts]
- David Hume-The Impossibility of Equality [excerpts]
- Baron De Montesquieu-Fear and Peace [excerpts]

- Baron De Montesquieu-The Ideal Constitution [excerpts]
- James Madison-The Danger of Faction [excerpts]

5. Smith on Moral Sentiments and the Market Economy

- *Lecture Note 05: Smith on Moral Sentiments and the Market Economy
- Adam Smith-Division of Labour [excerpts]
- Adam Smith-The Dangers of Government Interference [excerpts]

6. Rousseau's Modernism and the Appearance of Schism in the Enlightenment

- *Lecture Note 06: Rousseau's Modernism and Appearance of Schism in the Enlightenment
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau-The Effect of the Arts and Sciences [excerpts]
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau-Natural Freedom and the Freedom of the Citizen [excerpts]
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau-The Earth Belongs to Nobody [excerpts]
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau-The General Will [excerpts]
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau-The Noble Savage [excerpts]

7. The French Revolution and Left-Right Polarization

- *Lecture Note 07: The French Revolution and Left-Right Polarization
- *Declarations of the Rights of Man and Citizens
- Edmund Burke-Reflections on the Revolution in France [excerpts]
- Edmund Burke-Eternal Society [excerpts]
- Charles Breung and Matthew Levinger, *The Revolutionary Era 1789-1850*, 3rd edition, 2002, pp. 140-162
- Mary Wollstonecraft-The Rights of Women [excerpts]
- Robert Owen-Man's Character in Formed for Him [excerpts]
- Peter Kropotkin-Mutual Aid [excerpts]
- Michael Bakunin-Science and the People [excerpts]

8. The French Revolution and the German Counter-Enlightenment.

- *Lecture Note 08: The French Revolution and the German Counter-Enlightenment
- Immanuel Kant-The Categorical Imperative [excerpts]
- Immanuel Kant-Freedom and Equality [excerpts]
- Immanuel Kant-The Hypothetical Contract [excerpts]
- Isaiah Berlin, The Roots of Romanticism, 1965 [excerpts]

9. Liberal versus Civic Republicanism

- *Lecture Note 09: Liberal versus Civic Republicanism
- Benjamin Constant de Rebecque-The Liberty of the Ancients and the Liberty of the Moderns [excerpts]
- G W F Hegel-The Priority of the State over the Individual [excerpts]
- Alexis De Tocqueville-Tyranny of the Majority [excerpts]
- Alexis De Tocqueville-The Nature of Modern Servitude [excerpts]
- John Stuart Mill-One Simple Principle [excerpts]
- John Stuart Mill-The Democratic Citizen [excerpts]
- *Isaiah Berlin-Two Concepts of Liberty

10. Marxism and Communism

- *Lecture Note 10: Marxism and Communism
- Friedrich Engels-Transition to Communism [excerpts]
- Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels-Man as a Productive Being [excerpts]
- Karl Marx-Money the Universal Whore [excerpts]
- Karl Marx-Appearance and Reality [excerpts]
- *Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels-The Communist Manifesto [excerpts]
- Karl Marx-Development of the Productive Forces [excerpts]
- Karl Marx-From Each According to His Abilities to Each According to His Needs [excerpts]

- Karl Marx-The Realm of Freedom [excerpts]
- Karl Marx-The Rights of Egoistic Man [excerpts]
- Karl Marx-The True Foundation of Private Property [excerpts]
- Karl Marx-Work in Communist Society [excerpts]
- *V I Lenin-What Is to Be Done? [excerpts]
- *V I Lenin-Bourgeois and Proletarian Democracy [excerpts]
- Joseph Stalin-The Foundations of Leninism [excerpts]

11. The Other Europe and Varieties of Nationalism

- *Lecture Note 11: The Other Europe and Varieties of Nationalism
- Adolf Hitler-Mein Kampf [excerpts]
- Benito Mussolini-The Doctrine of Fascism [excerpts]
- Carl Schmitt, The Concept of the Political, 1932 [excerpts]
- Isaiah Berlin-National Sentiment [excerpts]

12. Progressive Reforms and Libertarian & Communitarian Counter Reforms to Save Liberalism

- *Lecture Note 12: Progressive Reforms to Save Capitalism and the Libertarian Counter Reforms
- Robert Skidelsky-Keynes [excerpts]
- John Rawls-A Theory of Justice [excerpts]
- John Rawls-Two Principles of Justice [excerpts]
- F A Hayek, Prices as a Code [excerpts]
- F A Hayek, The Impossibility of Planning [excerpts]
- Milton Friedman and Rose Friedman-The Tyranny of Controls [excerpts]
- Robert Nozick-The Entitlement Theory [excerpts]
- Robert Nozick-The Entitlement Theory of Justice [excerpts]
- Charles Taylor, Identification and Subjectivity [excerpts]

- Alasdair Macintyre, Tradition and the Unity of Life [excerpts]
- Michael Sandel, Conceptions of Community [excerpts]

13. Radical Individualism and the Roots of Irrational Politics

- *Lecture Note 13: Radical Individualism and the Roots of Irrational Politics
- Friedrich Nietzsche-The Gay Science [excerpts]
- Friedrich Nietzsche-The Impulse towards Justice [excerpts]
- Fyodor Dostoyevsky-Our Self-Destructive Impulse [excerpts]
- Franz Kafka-Metamorphosis
- Sigmund Freud-Property and Aggression [excerpts]
- Max Weber-State and Coercion [excerpts]
- Mark Lilla *The Reckless Mind-Intellectuals in Politics*-“Alexandre Kojeve” [excerpts]

14. Western Marxism and the Postmodernist New Cultural Left

- *Lecture Note 14: Western Marxism and the Postmodernist New Cultural Left
- Herbert Marcuse- [excerpts]
- Stephen R Hicks *Explaining Postmodernism*-“Setting Aside Reason and Logic”; “Emotions as Revelatory”; and “Heidegger and Postmodernism” [excerpts]
- Mark Lilla *The Reckless Mind*-“Alexandre Kojeve” [excerpts]
- Jean-Paul Sartre-Existentialism and Humanism [excerpts]
- Michel Foucault-Power/Knowledge [excerpts]
- Michel Foucault-The Subject and Power [excerpts]
- Isaiah Berlin, The Roots of Romanticism [excerpts]

15. Conclusion to Ideologies Shaping Our World

- *Lecture Note 15: Conclusion to Ideologies Shaping Our World
- *Francis Fukuyama, “The End of History?” *The National Interest*, Summer 1989
- *Paul Sagar, “Was Francis Fukuyama the first man to see Trump coming?” *Aeon Essays*, 21 March 2017

- *Pankaj Mishra, “How Rousseau Predicted Trump,” *The New Yorker*, 1 August 2016
- *Pankaj Mishra, “The Anti-Elite, Post-Fact Worlds of Trump and Rousseau,” *The New Yorker*, 14 November 2016
- *Patricia Crone, “The Acculturated Native Who Rebels,” Institute of Advanced Studies, Princeton, NJ, 2012. [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QyQt1bCnDm4>]
- *Karl Popper, *The Utopian Method* [excerpts]
- *Karl Popper, *The Poverty of Historicism*, 1957 [excerpts]
- Mark Lilla, *The Once and Future Liberal-After Identity Politics*, Harper Collins, New York, 2017.

Study Load:

Activities	Number of hours
Lectures	24
Reading / Self-study	60
Tutorials	12
Assessment: Written paper	36
Total:	132

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) and Alignment with Common Core Programme Learning Outcomes (CC PLOs):

CLOs – On completing the course, students will be able to:		Alignment with CC PLOs
1.	Critically appreciate the core ideas of liberalism, socialism and nationalism in the past and the present.	1, 2, 3, 4
2.	Critically appreciate the power and limits of liberalism.	1, 2, 3, 4
3.	Be knowledgeable about the many obvious and subtle threats to liberalism, especially that of socialism and nationalism.	1, 2, 3, 4
4.	Be knowledgeable about challenges and alternatives to liberalism and the adaptability of liberalism.	1, 2, 3, 4

Standards of Assessment:

Grade	Criteria and Standards
Course Level Grade Descriptors	

A+, A, A-	Show superior grasp of all aspects of the course and demonstrate strong evidence of original thinking and evidence of extensive knowledge base in the subject area.
B+, B, B-	Show reasonable grasp of the key aspects of the course and demonstrate good evidence of original thinking and evidence of reasonable knowledge base in the subject area.
C+, C, C-	Show acceptable coverage of most aspects of the course, and demonstrate some evidence of original thinking and evidence of acceptable knowledge base in the subject area.
D+, D	Show marginal coverage of some aspects of the course, and demonstrate marginal evidence of original thinking and evidence of marginal knowledge base in the subject area.
F	Failure to identify and address any main theme and issue. No critical engagement with any issue, little mentioning and application of relevant concepts and theories, and with inaccuracies when doing so. Demonstrates a lack of understanding of existing arguments relevant to the topic.

Academic Conduct:

1. The University Regulations on academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced! Please check the University Statement on plagiarism on the web:
<http://www.hku.hk/plagiarism/>
2. Academic dishonesty is behavior in which a deliberately fraudulent misrepresentation is employed in an attempt to gain undeserved intellectual credit, either for oneself or for another. It includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following type of case:
 - a. Plagiarism - The representation of someone else's ideas as if they are one's own. Where the arguments, data, designs, etc., of someone else are being used in a paper, report, oral presentation, or similar academic project, this fact must be made explicitly clear by citing the appropriate references. The references must fully indicate the extent to which any parts of the project are not one's own work. Paraphrasing of someone else's ideas is still using someone else's ideas, and must be acknowledged.
 - b. Unauthorized Collaboration on Out-of-Class Projects - The representation of work as solely one's own when in fact it is the result of a joint effort. Where a candidate for a degree or other award uses the work of another person or persons without due acknowledgement:
 - The relevant Board of Examiners may impose a penalty in relation to the seriousness of the offence;
 - The relevant Board of Examiners may report the candidate to the Senate, where there is *prima facie* evidence of an intention to deceive and where sanctions beyond those in (1) might be invoked.

- c. Double Submission of Assignments - The submission of assignments as fulfillment of work in this course using materials that were or are being submitted for another course is also plagiarism. It is self-plagiarism and is the same as plagiarism, i.e., representation of someone else's ideas as our own. That some else is oneself. It is an attempt to get credit for work that will earn credit elsewhere.

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