

Honors Intellectual Traditions Revolutions

Policy Statement and Syllabus Spring Semester, 2020

Instructor: Dr. Paul Ketzle
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Office: MHC 1201
Office Hours T/Th 12:30-1:30 p.m.
(By *appointment*)

FOCUS

Revolution (def.): 1) a revolving;; a turning; 2) the overthrow of an established order.

“There are decades where nothing happens; and there are weeks where decades happen.”
— Vladimir Ilyich Lenin

The idea of “REVOLUTION” has come to frame the rapid and often radical shifts in the social, political, religious and scientific order for more than half a millennium. This Intellectual Traditions course will explore how this idea has come to permeate our history, our literature, our art and culture and politics. Our wide-ranging study will cover novels, stories, plays, scientific, philosophical and religious works, as well as other art, texts, and films. Our explorations will range from the scientific revolution of Copernicus to the reformation of Martin Luther, the establishment of the American Democratic Republic to the fight for equal rights of women and racial minorities to the economic revolt of the working classes. Our primary focus will be on critically reading texts within their own contexts to understand how this idea of “revolution” has arisen across different times, places, and cultures as we explore how these texts have inspired—or countered—revolution. Along the way, we will question, along with Jefferson, whether revolution is inevitable—or even an integral component to advance human society.

OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Written Communication: Student writers will learn to articulate complex ideas through the genre of academic writing. They will also explore writing as a means of exploring, processing, and creating thought through lower-stakes writing.

Inquiry and Analysis: Students will explore issues and ideas from the end of Antiquity to the 20th Century, both as an historical-contextual exercise and as an attempt to understand how ideas build upon and react to each other and to learn to ask questions that challenge those ideas. Students will utilize evidence from primary and secondary texts to construct arguments based upon this inquiry.

Creative Thinking: To engage all aspects of students’ intellectual intelligence, students will also be asked to consider conventional questions, topics, and events in unconventional ways, using creative approaches to imagine and reimagine these questions and the answers they might give them.

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS

- Participation, Questions 15%
- On-line Discussions 20%
- Paper #1 20%
- Paper #2 20%
- Theory of Revolution (Analysis) 25%

STUDENT SAFETY

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

THE IDEA OF REVOLUTION / SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Ghandi “The Way of the Sword”
Copernicus, “Commentariolus”

Thurs: Bacon, Novum Organum
Plutarch, “Sparticus”

WEEK 2

POLITICAL REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Aristotle, Politics (Book V)

Thurs: Shakespeare, Julius Caesar

WEEK 3

POLITICAL REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Shakespeare, Julius Caesar

Thurs: Milton: “The Tenure of Kings and Magistrates”

WEEK 4

POLITICAL REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Paine, “Common Sense” Hamilton, “Farmer”

Thurs: Burke, “Reflections on the French Revolution”

WEEK 5

POLITICAL REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Wollstonecraft, “Vindication on the Rights of Men” (130pp)
Blake, “America: A Prophecy”; “Europe: A Prophecy”

Thurs: Confederate Articles of Secession
Douglass, “The Revolution of 1848”

Paper #1 Due

WEEK 6

ECONOMIC REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Mandella, “I am Prepared to Die”
Lenin, “The Socialist Revolution”

Thurs: Havel, “Power to the Powerless,” “The Owl That Brayed”

WEEK 7

RELIGIOUS REVOLUTIONS

Tues: **Paradise Lost**

Thurs: **Ibn Ishaq, “Biography of the Prophet”**

WEEK 8

RELIGIOUS REVOLUTIONS

Tues: The Bible: “Revelations” / Paradise Lost (War in Heaven)

Thurs: Luther, 95 Theses, “A Sermon on Indulgences and Grace”

WEEK 9

RELIGIOUS REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Wolfgang, “Against the Unholy Rebellion of Martin Luder”

Thurs: Christin de Pizan, “Joan of Arc”

WEEK 10

Spring Break — No Class

Paper #2 Due

WEEK 11

SOCIAL REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Susan B. Anthony, “Is it a crime...?”
“Women’s Petition to the French National Assembly”

Thurs: Miller, “Are Women People?”

WEEK 12

SOCIAL REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Malcolm X, “Message to the Grass Roots” & “The Ballot or the Bullet”

Thurs: Lewis, *March*

Viewing: *Cry Freedom*

WEEK 13

SOCIAL REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Lewis, *March*

Thurs: **Rare Books Collection, Marriott Library, 4th Floor**

WEEK 14

ART OF THE REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Art of the Revolutions

Thurs: Art of the Revolutions

WEEK 15

MUSIC OF THE REVOLUTIONS

Tues: Music of the Revolutions

Thurs: Music of the Revolutions

WEEK 16

Tues: The End of Revolution

Theory of Revolution Due