**MODERN POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES**

**Code:**

**Term: Winter 2014**

**ECTS credits:** 6

**Lessons per week:** 90 + 90 min

**Language:** English

**Instructor: Mgr. Pavol Hardoš, MA**

**Form of study:** Lecture+discussion

# Course Objectives

Survey of the major political ideologies from the Enlightenment to the present. Through assigned readings, lectures and discussion students will familiarize themselves with the basics of the ideologies which have shaped our modern world. They will have the opportunity by means of a research paper to examine more thoroughly a political ideology or a political philosopher not dealt with systematically in the course. Finally, students will have an opportunity to apply their knowledge into devising and presenting their own party manifestos.

# Contents

Introduction to the ideologies by means of an assigned textbook and selections from primary sources. Background information supplied by assigned textbook readings and lecture with significant class discussion of the basic characteristics of the various ideologies. Primary focus will be on the definition and origin of the term “ideology” and the following: liberalism, conservatism, Marxism, social democracy, nationalism, fascism, anarchism, and feminism. Throughout the course comparison will be made between each ideology and the concept of “liberal democracy” which characterizes the political systems of the modern industrialized Western world as well as many other countries.

# Themes

Week 1. Introduction: The concept of ‘political ideology’

Week 2. Liberalism: Liberal Beginnings and Key concepts

Week 3. Varieties of Liberalism; Liberal and Illiberal Democracy

Week 4. Conservatism: What and why to conserve?

Week 5. Socialism, Communism, Social Democracy: In the name of equality

Week 6. Anarchism: You’re not the boss of me!

Week 7. Nationalism: friend or foe?

Week 8. Fascism: The recurrent threat

Week 9. Feminism: Personal is Political!

Week 10. Ecologism: Green is good

Week 11. Religious Fundamentalism & Multiculturalism: Modern challenges

Week 12. Conclusion: Post-Ideological Age? -- Manifesto Project presentations

# Required Readings

Andrew Heywood, *Political Ideologies* (2012; 5th ed): chapters corresponding to the weekly topics

Selected weekly primary readings (TBA on Moodle)

# Coursework requirements

**Participation:** Questions during lectures are welcome and encouraged. We won’t know what is unclear unless we discuss the issues, answer queries, and solve puzzles. Others might not realize something is unclear unless someone actually asks a question. You might help everyone in their learning process, so don’t hesitate. Active participation in seminars is also required. You are expected to come prepared for an in-depth discussion of the topics and the required readings.

**Quizzes**: 5-6 unannounced quizzes on the week’s required readings. Quizzes will include questions on respective texts or ask for a short reflection on the readings. Your worst quiz grade will be dropped from consideration. But: No retakes, no postponements, you miss the quiz, you get a zero.

**Written assignment**: 2000-2500 (cca.) words long research paper on a political thinker or a concept that interested you or you felt was neglected in the course. The topic’s choice is up to you but you will need the instructor’s approval. **Due: After Mid-terms (TBA)**

**Manifesto project**: Students (working in pairs) will devise a party manifesto inspired by one of the ideologies discussed in the course (each group will be assigned a different ideology). This should be a 2-3 pages long party policy platform. To make it more interesting/challenging, the manifesto should be designed in the context of a fictional BISLA-wide student election – the issues, problems and policies should be connected with your school life (so, no *collectivization of industry*). **Due: last week of classes**. Students will present and discuss their party platforms. Both content and presentation will be part of the evaluation.

# Evaluation criteria

1. Class participation (20%)
2. Quizzes (30%)
3. Written assignment (20%)
4. Manifesto Project (20%+10%)

# Course Evaluation (%)

A – excellent: 100-93%,

B – very good: 92-84%,

C – good: 83-74%,

D – satisfactory: 73-63%,

E – sufficient: 62-51%,

Fx – fail: 50-0%.

Passing a course assumes that student was not absent at more than 4 lessons.

# Recommended readings and sources

**\*1\***

Dryzek, John, Bonnie Honig, and Anne Phillips (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Freeden, Michael. *Ideologies and political theory: a conceptual approach*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1996.

Freeden, Michael. *Ideology: A very short introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2003.

Gaus, Gerald and Chandran Kukathas (eds.) *Handbook of Political Theory*. London: Sage, 2004

Susser, Bernard. *The Grammar of Modern Ideology.* Routledge, 1988.

Susser, Bernard. *Political ideology in the modern world*. Needham Heights, MA: Allyn and Bacon, 1995.

Swift, Adam. *Political Philosophy.* Cambridge, Polity, 2001.

**\*2\*3\***

Berlin, Isaiah. *Four Essays on Liberty*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1970.

Hayek, F.A. *The Constitution of Liberty.* Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1960.

Mill, John Stuart. "Essay on liberty." 1859.

Minogue, Kenneth. *The Liberal Mind*. London: Methuen, 1963.

Rawls, John. *Political Liberalism*. Columbia University Press, 1993.

Ryan, Alan. *The Making of Modern Liberalism*. Princeton University Press, 2012.

**\*4\***

Robin, Corey. *The Reactionary Mind: Conservatism from Edmund Burke to Sarah Palin*. Oxford University Press, 2011.

Kirk, Russell. *The conservative mind: from Burke to Eliot*. Regnery Publishing, 2001.

Oakeshott, Michael. *Rationalism in politics and other essays*. London: Methuen, 1967.

Stelzer, Irwin. *Neoconservatism*. Atlantic Books, 2004.

**\*5\***

Arendt, Hannah. *The Origins of Totalitarianism*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1973.

McLellan, David. *Marxism after Marx*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

Kolakowski, Leszek. *Main currents of Marxism: The founders, the golden age, the breakdown*. WW Norton, 2008.

Sassoon, Donald. *One hundred years of socialism: The West European left in the twentieth century*. IB Tauris, 2013.

**\*6\***

Marshall, Peter. *Demanding the Impossible: A History of Anarchism*. PM Press, 2009.

Ward, Colin. *Anarchism: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2004.

Wolff, Robert Paul. *In Defense of Anarchism*. Univ of California Press, 1970.

**\*7\***

Gellner, Ernest. *Encounters with Nationalism*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1994.

Ozkirimli, Umut. *Theories of Nationalism: A Critical Introduction*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

Spencer, Philip, and Howard Wollman. *Nationalism: A Critical Introduction*. Sage, 2002

**\*8\***

Griffin, Roger. *A Fascist Century*. Palgrave, 2008.

Passmore, Kevin. *Fascism: a very short introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2014.

Paxton, Robert. *The Anatomy of Fascism*. Random House LLC, 2007.

Woodley, Daniel. *Fascism and political theory: critical perspectives on fascist ideology*. Routledge, 2009.

**\*9\***

Bryson, Valerie. *Feminist Political Theory: An Introduction.* (2nd ed.) Palgrave Macmillan, 2003.

Butler, Judith. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. Routledge, 2006.

hooks, bell. *Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics*. Pluto Press, 2000.

**\*10\***

Dobson, Andrew. *Green Political Thought (4th ed)*. Routledge, 2000.

Eckersley, Robyn. *The Green State: Rethinking Democracy and Sovereignty*. MIT Press, 2004.

**\*11\***

Kymlicka, Will. *Multicultural Citizenship: A Liberal Theory of Minority Rights,* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.

Parekh, Bhikhu. *Rethinking Multiculturalism: Cultural Diversity and Political Theory*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2000.

Ruthven, Malise. *Fundamentalism: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2007.

Qutb, Sayyid. “The America I Have Seen”, 1951.

**\*12\***

Bell, Daniel. *The End of Ideology*. New York: Free Press, 1960.

Fukuyama, Francis. *The End of History and the Last Man*. Simon and Schuster, 2006 (1992).