**MODERN POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES**

**Code:**

**Term: Winter 2017**

**ECTS credits:** 5

**Lessons per week:** 120 min

**Language:** English

**Instructor: Mgr. Pavol Hardoš, MA, PhD**

**Form of study:** Lecture+discussion

# Course Objectives

Survey of the major political ideologies from the Enlightenment to the present, with an emphasis on the modern mutations of traditional ideological families. Through assigned readings, lectures and discussion students will familiarize themselves with the basics of the ideologies which shape our political 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 readings 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”, the function of ideology in modern politics, and the following large ideological traditions: liberalism, conservatism, socialism, 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.

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

All required readings will be uploaded on Moodle

**Eccleshall, Robert et al. 2003. *Political Ideologies: An Introduction* (3rd ed.)**, London: Routledge. – chapter selections corresponding to the weekly topics, unless otherwise specified.

**Vincent, Andrew. 2009. *Modern Political Ideologies***. John Wiley & Sons. – chapter selections on fascism, anarchism, fundamentalism, feminism.

**Selected** **weekly primary readings** – ideological texts or further explanatory/interesting resources (to be specified below & added on Moodle)

**Movie**: Slavoj Žižek, *The Pervert’s Guide to Ideology* (parts of the movie to be watched in class)

**Week 1 Introduction**

\*Freeden, Michael: *Ideology: A Very Short Introduction*; Chapter 1: Should ideologies be ill-reputed?

**Week 2 Liberalism**

\*Eccleshall et al., chapter on Liberalism

\* J.S. Mill ‘On Liberty’ (excerpt)

**Week 3 Liberalism continued (varieties of liberalism); Liberal and Illiberal Democracy**

\*Wilkinson, Will (Sept. 2016): ‘[The freedom lover's case for the welfare state](https://www.vox.com/2016/9/1/12732168/economic-freedom-score-america-welfare-state)’

\*Wilkinson, Will (May, 2016) : ‘[The Great Enrichment and Social Justice](https://niskanencenter.org/blog/the-great-enrichment-and-social-justice/)’

\*Isaac, Jeffrey: ‘[Is There Illiberal Democracy](http://www.publicseminar.org/2017/07/is-there-illiberal-democracy/#.Wa3cpdFLfDc)?’ Public Seminar, full essay (July 2017)

\*Bozoki, Andras: ‘[Illiberal Democracy Belongs to the Hybrid Regimes](http://www.publicseminar.org/2017/08/illiberal-democracy-belongs-to-the-hybrid-regimes/)’ Public Seminar (Aug. 2017)

**Week 4 Conservatism**

\*Eccleshall et al., chapter on Conservatism

\*Oakeshott, M. ‘On being conservative’ (excerpt), section 1 & 3

**Week 5 Socialism**

\*Eccleshall et al., chapter on Socialism

\* Jacobin, ABCs of Socialism, pp. 12-29

\* Todd, Joseph: ‘[Socialize the Internet!](https://roarmag.org/magazine/socialize-the-internet/)’ (ROAR mag. #2, 2016)

**Week 6 Anarchism**

\*Vincent, chapter on Anarchism

\*Berkman, A. ‘What is Anarchism?’ Chapter XX (chapter XXI voluntary)

\*Roos, Jerome on the Commune: ‘[The Political Form at Last Rediscovered](https://roarmag.org/issues/revive-la-commune/)’ (ROAR Magazine #1, 2016)

**Week 7 Nationalism**

\*Eccleshall et al., chapter on Nationalism

\*Publius Decius Mus (AKA Michael Anton), ‘[The Flight 93 Election](http://www.claremont.org/crb/basicpage/the-flight-93-election/)’ (Sept. 2016), American Greatness magazine

\*Gellner, Ernest, ‘From Kinship to Ethnicity’ in Gellner, E. *Encounters with nationalism*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1994.

**Week 8 Fascism**

\*Vincent, chapter on Fascism

\*Eco, Umberto. "[Ur-fascism](http://pegc.us/archive/Articles/eco_ur-fascism.pdf)." *The New York Review of Books* 42 (11): 12-15, 1995.

\*Littell, Jonathan. *The Kindly Ones*. Random House LLC, 2010. (excerpt)

\*Spencer, Richard. ‘[What it means to be alt-right](https://altright.com/2017/08/11/what-it-means-to-be-alt-right/)’ (August 2017), AltRight.com

**Week 9 Feminism**

\*Vincent, chapter on Feminism

\*hooks, bell: ‘Feminism is for Everybody’ (Cambridge, MA: South End Press, 2000), selections (Introduction: Come Closer to Feminism; 1. Feminist Politics; 5. Our Bodies, Ourselves; 9. Women at Work)

\* Adichie, Ngozi Chimamanda, ‘We Should All Be Feminists’ ([TED talk](https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_ngozi_adichie_we_should_all_be_feminists))

**Week 10 Ecologism**

\*Eccleshall et al, chapter on Ecologism

\*Naess, Arne. ‘The shallow and the deep, long‐range ecology movement. A summary.’ *Inquiry* 16 (1-4): 95-100, 1973.

\* [‘A reckoning for our species': the philosopher prophet of the Anthropocene](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jun/15/timothy-morton-anthropocene-philosopher), on Timothy Morton, Guardian (June, 2017)

**Week 11 Religious Fundamentalism & Multiculturalism**

\*Vincent, chapter on fundamentalism

\* Qutb, Sayyid. ’[The America I Have Seen](http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/a-lesson-in-hate-109822568/?all)’, 1951.

**Week 12 End of Ideology**

\*Eccleshal et al, chapter on End of Ideology

\*Fukuyama, F., ‘[At the 'End of History' Still Stands Democracy’](http://online.wsj.com/articles/at-the-end-of-history-still-stands-democracy-1402080661): *Twenty-five years after Tiananmen Square and the Berlin Wall's fall, liberal democracy still has no real competitors;* WSJ June 6, 2014

# 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.

The participation grade includes **quizzes (20%)**: several (intentionally unspecified number), small, unannounced quizzes on the week’s required reading(s). 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.

**Test:** MCHQ test on the major themes, lectures, and readings of the course. The test will most likely be done online, through Moodle (if possible). Date **TBD**.

**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. Cannot be directly related to your Manifesto project, otherwise the topic’s choice is up to you, but you will need the instructor’s approval. The paper will be submitted through Moodle. **Due: Week 10.**

**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 the content and the presentation will be part of the evaluation (notice the division of % in evaluation below).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Evaluation criteria  1. Class participation (10% + 20%) 2. Test (20%) 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.

# Some further 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

Heywood, Andrew. *Political Ideologies* (5th ed), New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.

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](https://theanarchistlibrary.org/library/robert-paul-wolff-in-defense-of-anarchism). University 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).