

Nothing should humble philosophers and statesmen more than the history of our Revolution; for never were there events that were greater, more remotely begun, better prepared, and less foreseen. Even Frederick the Great, despite his genius, did not anticipate it. He touched it without seeing it. Moreover, he acted according to its spirit in advance; he was its precursor and, so to speak, its agent; but he did not recognize its approach. When the Revolution finally appeared, the new and extraordinary traits that came to distinguish it from the mass of previous revolutions at first escaped notice.

—Alexis de Tocqueville, *The Old Regime & the Revolution*

Political Science 3809
Honors Seminar: Revolution and Reform
Fall 2012

Instructor: James Stoner <poston@lsu.edu >
Stubbs 240 (tel. 578-2538)

Class Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:30 pm to 4:50 pm (218 Stubbs)

Office Hours: Mon., 10:00-11:30 am
Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm, and by appointment

Course requirements:

- Attendance at every class and participation in class discussion [20%]
- Five biweekly 400-word essays on the reading [20%]
- Topic for research paper (by November 8)
- Class presentation on research paper (during November) [10%]
- Fifteen-page research paper, due Wednesday, December 5, 9:30 a.m. [50%]

Books available for purchase:

- Adam Smith, *Wealth of Nations* (2 vols.) (Liberty Fund) [978-0865970083]
- Edmund Burke & Thomas Paine, *Two Classics of the French Revolution: Reflections on the Revolution in France and The Rights of Man* (Dolphin) [978-0385265775]
- Gordon Wood, *The Radicalism of the American Revolution* (Vintage) [978-0679736882]
- James Madison, *Notes of Debates in the Federal Convention* (Ohio) [978-0821407653]
- Harry Jaffa, *Crisis of the House Divided* (Chicago) [978-0226391182]
- Richard Hofstadter, *The Age of Reform* (Vintage) [978-0394700953]
- Daniel Rodgers, *Atlantic Crossings: Social Politics in a Progressive Age* (Harvard) [978-0674002012]
- Jean Yarbrough, *Theodore Roosevelt and the American Political Tradition* (Kansas) [978-0700618866]

Website/Reserve: A Moodle website for the course will provide access many of the readings, include details on exams and assignments, and record your grades. Many of the books are also available on reserve in Middleton Library.

SYLLABUS:**I. THE POLITICAL THEORY OF REVOLUTION**

- Mon., 8/20 Harvey C. Mansfield, "The Unfinished Revolution," in Hancock & Lambert, *The Legacy of the French Revolution* (1996), pp. 19-41
- Wed., 8/22 Aristotle, *Politics*, V
Polybius, *Histories*, VI. 1-18
- Mon., 8/27 Niccolo Machiavelli, *Discourses on Livy*, I. pref., 1-10, 16-18, 55-58; III. 1, 6-9
- Wed., 8/29 [Junius Brutus], *Vindiciae contra Tyrannos*
- Mon., 9/3 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
- Wed., 9/5 John Locke, *Two Treatises of Government*. II. 1-5, 9-13, 19
- Mon., 9/10 Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*, intro., I. 1-5, II. 3-4, III. 3-4
- Wed., 9/12 Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*, IV. 1-2, V 1(f-g), 2(f-g), 3 (§§1-13, 59-64)
- Mon., 9/17 Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France* [pp. 11-22, 43-78, 88-130, 171-202, 263-266]
Thomas Paine, *The Rights of Man* [pp. 275-311]
- Wed., 9/19 Karl Marx, *Communist Manifesto*

II. THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

- Mon., 9/24 Gordon Wood, *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*, I. 1-5, II. 6-12
- Wed., 9/26 Wood, *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*, III. 13-19
- Mon., 10/1 Jonathan Mayhew, "The Snare Broken" (1766), and
John Witherspoon, "The Dominion of Providence over the Passions of Men" (1776) in Ellis Sandoz, ed., *Political Sermons of the American Founding Era*, vol. I
Richard Bland, "An Inquiry in the Rights of the British Colonies" (1766),
Massachusettensis, "To All Nations of Men" (1773), and
John Adams, "Thoughts on Government" (1776), in Charles S. Hyneman &
Donald S. Lutz, eds., *American Political Writing during the Founding Era, 1760-1805*, vol. I
- Wed., 10/3 James Madison, *Notes on Debates in the Federal Convention* [Pref., May 14 – June 14]
- Mon., 10/8 Madison, *Notes* [June 15 – July 16]
- Wed., 10/10 Madison, *Notes* [July 17-21, Aug. 7-14, Aug. 21-22, Sept. 15-17]

III. THE “SECOND AMERICAN REVOLUTION”

- Mon., 10/15 Harry Jaffa, *Crisis of the House Divided*, ch. 2, 3, 7, 9
 Wed., 10/17 Jaffa, *Crisis of the House Divided*, ch. 12-15, 17, 19

IV. PROGRESSIVISM AND REFORM

- Mon., 10/22 Richard Hofstadter, *The Age of Reform*, ch. 1, 4
 Wed., 10/24 Hofstadter, *The Age of Reform*, ch. 5-6
 Mon., 10/29 Daniel Rodgers, *Atlantic Crossings*, ch. 1-2
 Wed., 10/31 Rodgers, *Atlantic Crossings*, ch. 3 and one additional chapter
 Mon., 11/5 Jean Yarbrough, *Theodore Roosevelt and the American Political Tradition*,
 intro., ch. 1-4
 Wed., 11/7 Yarbrough, *Theodore Roosevelt and the American Political Tradition*, ch. 5-
 6, epilogue

V. RESEARCH WORKSHOP

- Mon., 11/12
 Wed., 11/14
 Mon., 11/19
 Wed., 11/21 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY (BEGINS 12:30 PM)
 Mon., 11/26
 Wed., 11/28
 Wed., 12/6 **PAPER DUE (9:30 am, Stubbs 240)**