

Political Science, 292, Political Philosophy II
Dr. Ben B. Alexander
Egan 276; virtual office:balexander@gwia.franciscan.edu;
virtual class: FUS Academic WEB (Every student must be connected to the FUS web for
weekly receptions of class materials.)

Readings

Jan 15—Elizabethan cultural context, and intro to Shakespeare's Richard II.

Jan 22-- Shakespeare and the breakdown of medieval Catholic order; Richard II (first cultural ID sheet due)

Jan. 29—test, Richard II; John Milton, “Tenure of Kings and Magistrates” in Milton's Political Writings (some available in bookstore) or see FUS course website for internet link for the reading.

Feb—5. Milton and the Puritan Revolution, excerpts from the History of the English People (see course website for link); Shakespeare, Julius Caesar, Acts I-III

Feb. 12—test, Shakespeare, Julius Caesar, entire play, read Eric Voegelin, “Introduction” chapter in Science, Gnosticism and Politics

Feb. 19—excerpts from Machiavelli's The Prince; see course website on FUS web for readings or bring get your own copy of the Prince; Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan, (several chapters to be assigned—please get book from bookstore).

Feb. 26—test/ or exercise this week; Donald Davidson, The Attack on Leviathan; several chapters given out or put on reserve.

March 5—Albert Camus, World War II, Resistance to modern tyranny, Combat readings, 1-150

March 12—test or exercise, Albert Camus, World War II, Resistance to modern tyranny, Combat Readings, 200-240; Voegelin, Science Politics and Gnosticism, read the chapter “Erstaz Religion”

Spring Break

March 26—Rousseau, “Discourse on the Origins of Inequality” (on course website); 3rd worksheet due the following Tuesday, March 31 with an email time stamp of no later than noon; hard copy due at class the following Thursday.

April 02-- Albert Camus and the Hobbesian, Machiavellian tradition; World War II, Resistance to modern tyranny, Combat readings, 1-150; review and bring to class Donald Davidson, The Attack on Leviathan; chapters emailed previously.

April 09—Holy Week: class does not meet this week but an assignment will be due via email by noon on Maundy Thursday relative to Eric Voegelin; read emailed chapters from Autobiographical Reflections; read also Science, Gnosticism and Politics, “Introduction”; and the chapter on “Erstaz Religion”

April 16—a written exercise having to do with Voegelin chapters given this night after the lecture; read Science, Gnosticism and Politics, “Introduction”; and the chapter on “Erstaz Religion”

April 23—Honore de Balzac, Short Stories on the French Revolution; Edmund Burke, Reflections on the Revolution in France---number of pages TBA.

April 30—take home final exam question due; in class portion of exam cumulative—thinkers and material to be announced.