

**Oxford College of Emory University**  
**Pol. Sc. 301 Classical Political Thought**  
**Syllabus**

Seney 322  
M, W, F 9:30-10:35  
Fall 2013  
Prerequisite: Pols 101

William B. Cody, Ph.D., J.D.  
Seney 115-A  
Phone: 784-8444  
Hours: M, W 1:15-2:45  
T, Th 1:00-3:00  
and by appointment

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the thought of major figures of classical political philosophy. Students will study the roots of Western culture by reading selections from the works of Aristophanes, Plato, Aristotle, and Cicero and be prepared to discuss/explain the assigned materials each day. Students will also prepare for three in-class tests and be prepared to answer the questions posed by a portion of each test. In addition, the students will be expected to analyze critically by the end of the semester the political thought of these Greek and Roman philosophers during class discussions.

**TEXTS:**

Plato & Aristophanes: *FOUR TEXTS ON SOCRATES*, West & West, trans. (Cornell)  
Plato: *THE REPUBLIC*, Bloom, trans. (Basic Books)  
Aristotle: *THE POLITICS*, Lord, trans., FIRST EDITION (Chicago)  
Cicero: *THE REPUBLIC; THE LAWS*, Keyes, trans. (Harvard)

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Two in-class tests will be given during the course of the semester and will count for a total of 40% of the student's final grade (20% each). The scheduled dates for these tests are **September 30** and **November 4**. On class days after the first week not fewer than six unannounced quizzes will be given over the assigned readings. These unannounced quizzes will count for 20% of the student's final grade and may be given from the beginning to the end of each class session. At the scheduled time of our final exam, **9:00 a.m. on December 17, 2013**, there will be a not more than two-hour final test counting for 20% of the student's final grade. The remaining 20% of the student's final grade will be based upon the quality of that student's participation in class discussions. The requirements listed above are comprehensive and inclusive--no "extra credit" will be allowed.

**Every student must prepare the assigned readings for each class session if they expect to succeed in this class. You must be prepared to participate each time you come into class.**

**"Student work submitted as part of this course may be reviewed by Oxford College and Emory College faculty and staff for the purposes of improving instruction and enhancing Emory education."**

## PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES AND OTHER SOURCES OF CLASS DISTURBANCE

Cell phones, pagers, and beepers are not permitted in my classroom unless they are completely turned off! Should any personal communication or other device cause a disturbance by making its presence known (audibly or otherwise), the possessor of the device may be required to leave the classroom immediately.

## MAKE-UP WORK:

An unexcused absence from any quiz, test, or examination will result in the grade of zero for that quiz, test or examination.

## ATTENDANCE:

Students are expected to attend class on a regular basis. Students are also expected to arrive for class on time. Students who are not in class are unable to participate in discussion and take quizzes. In addition, students who miss more than three classes will lose the benefit of the doubt in the calculation of his or her final grade.

## HONOR CODE:

It is assumed that all students are aware of the Honor Code. The Honor Code is always in force! Read it and be familiar with it (as described on pages 112-116 of the 2013-2014 Catalog of Oxford College). When in doubt, ask first!

## ASSIGNMENTS:

A tentative outline of the class schedule for the entire semester is attached. Unless otherwise notified in class (or noted on the outline), students should complete the reading assignments for each chapter by the first day scheduled for discussion of the topic on the outline. For the purposes of quizzes, students are expected to have completed all readings by the first day they are due.

## GRADES:

Oxford College's Optional Plus-Minus Grading Scale (as described on pages 86-87 of the 2013-2014 Catalog of Oxford College) will be used in determining grades for this class.

**THE COURSE SYLLABUS PROVIDES A GENERAL PLAN FOR THE COURSE;  
DEVIATIONS MAY BE NECESSARY.**

## READING ASSIGNMENTS FOR POLS 301

Aug. 28, 30:	Introduction
<b>[Sept. 2:</b>	<b>Labor Day. NO MEETING. Read “The Clouds” &amp; start Plato.]</b>
Sept. 4, 6:	Aristophanes: <i>The Clouds</i>
Sept. 9, 11, 13:	Plato: <i>Apology of Socrates</i>
Sept. 16, 18, 20:	Plato: <i>The Republic</i> , Books 1 & 2
Sept. 23, 25:	Plato: <i>The Republic</i> , Books 3 & 4
<b>Sept. 30:</b>	<b>TEST ONE</b>
Sept. 27; Oct. 2, 4:	Plato: <i>The Republic</i> , Books 5 & 6
Oct. 7, 9, 11:	Plato: <i>The Republic</i> , Books 7 & 8
<b>[Oct. 14:</b>	<b>Fall Break. NO MEETING. Read Plato and Aristotle.]</b>
Oct. 16, 18, 21:	Plato: <i>The Republic</i> , Books 9 & 10
Oct. 23:	Plato: <i>Crito</i>
Oct. 25, 28, 30;	Aristotle: <i>Politics</i> , Books 1 & 2
<b>Nov. 4:</b>	<b>TEST TWO</b>
Nov. 1, 6:	Aristotle: <i>Politics</i> , Books 3 & 4
Nov. 8, 11, 13:	Aristotle: <i>Politics</i> , Books 5 & 6
Nov. 15, 18, 20:	Aristotle: <i>Politics</i> , Books 7 & 8
<b>[Nov. 27:</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Recess. NO CLASS. Read Aristotle and Cicero]</b>
Nov. 22, 25:	Cicero: <i>The Republic</i> , Books 1 & 2
Dec 2:	Cicero: <i>The Republic</i> , Books 3 & 4
Dec. 4, 6:	Cicero: <i>The Republic</i> , Books 5 & 6 + Cicero discussion
Dec. 9:	Summary & Conclusions
<b>Dec. 17:</b>	<b>FINAL TEST (9:00-11:00)</b>