Political Thought/Science Theory Political Science 385R Spring, 2014 Syllabus

<u>The Mainstream of Western Political Thought</u>. Judith Best. The Structure of Scientific Revolutions. Thomas Kuhn.

February 3: Mainstream, Preface and Chapters 1-4.

February 10: Mainstream, Chapters 5-7.

February 17: Mainstream, Chapter 8-9, Reviews due.

March 17: Scientific, Preface and Chapter 1.

March 24: Scientific, Chapters 2-7.

March 31: Scientific, Chapters 8-13, Reviews due.

The best way for you to approach this two credit hour course, and the way you will learn the most, is to read both books as early as you can and write at least comprehensive first drafts of the two summaries. Then skim the material and your highlighting and notes, and finish your papers, at the times specified above. If it is possible for you to do this, the course will not be very demanding and will be educationally very beneficial, especially if your majors are in any of the social sciences.

Reviews should be 900-1500 words long, should utilize no secondary sources, and must be clear and coherent. Most of the review should be a summary of the highlights, while the final page should be your critical evaluation. All your writing should be brief, clear and precise. You are allowed no more than five grammatical errors.