

# Contemporary Republican Theory

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COURSE INFORMATION	<i>Term:</i> Spring 2018 <i>Level:</i> Advanced Seminar (Mod 1) <i>Meet:</i> Mondays 7-9:50 PM <i>Room:</i> TBD <i>Syllabus Revision:</i> January 2, 2019	<i>Instructor:</i> Jack Reilly <i>Office:</i> Social Sciences 205 <i>E-mail:</i> <a href="mailto:jreilly@ncf.edu">jreilly@ncf.edu</a> <i>Office Hours:</i> TBD <i>Appointments:</i> <a href="http://jacklireilly.youcanbook.me">jacklireilly.youcanbook.me</a>
DESCRIPTION	This mod-length advanced seminar examines contemporary republican theory, also called 'civic republicanism' and sometimes 'liberal republicanism'. This school of thought emphasizes political liberty as the paramount virtue, and understands liberty to be fundamentally about non-domination (or independence from arbitrary power). The role of the state, then, is to ensure that its citizens to not suffer from arbitrary power held over them and thus, to enable the expression of liberty. We begin by discussing core contemporary republican theorists and routes to achieve non-domination and then look at what this means for the makeup and structure of the state before concluding with applications of contemporary republican theory to particular domains of scholarly political debate.	
PREREQUISITES	<i>Required:</i> an introductory course in political science (preferably <i>Introduction to Political Theory</i> ), intermediate work in political science or philosophy, and/or permission of the instructor.  <i>Recommended:</i> A course in democratic theory is beneficial but not required.	

## Books

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### BOOKS

#### Required

- Pettit, 1999. *Republicanism: A Theory of Freedom and Government*, Oxford.
- Lovett, 2013. *A General Theory of Domination and Justice*, Oxford.
- Taylor, 2017. *Exit Left: Markets and Mobility in Republican Thought*, Oxford.

*Note: All Oxford books are available electronically through the library. Click the links above while on campus for access.*

#### Enrichment (Optional)

- Kaldellis, 2015. *The Byzantine Republic: People and Power in New Rome*, Harvard.

#### Background and References

- Kymlicka, *Contemporary Political Philosophy*, Oxford. *An overview of contemporary analytic political philosophy*
- Honohan, 2002. *Civic Republicanism*. Routledge. *A review of classic and the early contemporary republicanism revival*
- Laborde and Maynor, eds. 2008. *Republicanism and Political Theory*. Blackwell. *An edited volume-style survey of Republican theory*

## Course Requirements

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OVERVIEW	<p>Satisfactory completion of the course requires completion of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Daily Preparation<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Reading</li><li>(b) Participation</li><li>(c) Discussion Questions</li></ol></li><li>2. Class Contributions<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Discussion Leadership (2)</li><li>(b) Response paper (2)</li></ol></li><li>3. Course Self-Evaluation</li></ol>
DAILY PREPARATION	<p><b>Daily Participation and Reading.</b> This is an advanced seminar taught at a graduate level. Informed class participation is expected and required each week. It is possible to “unsat” the course simply through non-participation.</p> <p><b>Discussion Questions.</b> Submit discussion questions or points (broadly construed) to the class by 12 noon on the day of class. Please respond to the first e-mail sent out, so all responses appear in a thread, and if you are the first questioner, title your e-mail “[CRT] Questions: Week X.” As an advanced seminar, discussion questions should be multiple in number and substantively rich each week.</p>
CLASS CONTRIBUTIONS	<p><b>Response Papers:</b> Each student will write two 4-6 page response papers during the semester. This paper will be submitted to the whole class by 6 PM on the Sunday before class, and should be read by other students in the class. As you are writing your response papers, you may wish to think of along the following dimensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Conclusive:</i> What is the primary argument of the readings for this week?</li><li>• <i>Analytic:</i> What are the assumptions made by the author in these readings? How well do the conclusions follow from the premises?</li><li>• <i>Synthetic:</i> How do these readings fit in with other readings from this class, or from other coursework you have taken? Are there undesirable implications that would arise in the real world if these conclusions were implemented?</li><li>• <i>Evaluative:</i> Do you buy what the author(s) is/are selling? Why or why not?</li></ul> <p><b>Discussion Leadership:</b> On the weeks that you write a reaction paper, you will co-lead discussion in seminar. Days may have multiple discussion leaders.</p>
GENDER STUDIES CREDIT	<p>This is a gender studies eligible course. Those who wish to receive gender studies credit will need to complete the second extended topics reading (republicanism and feminism) and write a third response paper.</p>

## Course Expectations

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**COURSE POLICIES** **Etiquette:** Course participants must be courteous to the professor and fellow students. Attend class on time, listen to fellow students when they talk, and disagree (or agree) with others' arguments professionally. Keep cell phones silenced and out of sight.

**Computation and Technology:** Laptops are required to be closed and left out of sight. Alternate accommodations, if necessary, can be made in the case of documented necessity through New College's Student Disability Services office (SDS).<sup>1</sup>

**Office Hours:** I encourage you to stop by my office hours at any point if you have questions about the course, the readings, school, etc. In addition to formal office hours, I have an open-door policy: if the door is open, you are welcome to come in. If you want to be sure you can speak with me, setting up an appointment beforehand at [jacklireilly.youcanbook.me](http://jacklireilly.youcanbook.me) is always a good idea.

**E-mail:** Students can generally expect a response to all e-mails within 24 hours, excepting weekends. I'm happy to answer any questions over e-mail that require less than a paragraph in response. Questions that require more than a short paragraph in response should be addressed in person.

**A Note on Writing:** Clear writing and argumentation is a critical element to success in this class. I strongly recommend exploring the options for writing (and revising!) assistance at the Writing Resource Center. You can schedule an appointment through the writing center here: <https://ncf.mywconline.com>

### NEW COLLEGE POLICY STATEMENTS

**Students with Disabilities:** Any student who, because of a documented disability, may require special arrangements and/or accommodations, should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from Student Disability Services during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are NOT permitted to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided. For additional information, please visit Student Disability Services in HCL 3 and/or email [disabilityservices@ncf.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@ncf.edu).

**Religious Observance:** No student shall be compelled to attend class or sit for an examination at a day or time when s/he would normally be engaged in religious observance or on a day or time prohibited by his or her religious belief. Students are expected to notify their instructors if they intend to be absent for a class or announced examination, in accordance with the policy, prior to the scheduled meeting.

**Academic Integrity:** Any suspected instance of plagiarism will be handled in accordance with the College's policy on academic dishonesty.

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<sup>1</sup>Tablets are acceptable to use to reference readings so long as they will not distract you from seminar discussion. Generally, this means that, *at minimum*, any network connectivity is turned off, notifications are muted/silenced/paused, and you commit to utilizing apps solely dedicated to reading. If you would like to use a tablet for this purpose in class, see me at the end of the first class period.

## Class Schedule

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### OVERVIEW

The course is roughly divided into three parts. First, we survey the state of contemporary republican theory, initially with an overview of the field and then with weeks dedicated to Pettit and Lovett, generally agreed to be the two most important contemporary republicans. Second, we spend two weeks reading one short contemporary book in detail. Third, and finally, we spend two weeks looking at a particular application domain for republican theory: globalization and immigration.<sup>2</sup>

W	Topics	Reading
1	Introduction	<i>Pettit and Lovett (2013)</i>
2	Civic Republicanism I	Pettit: chs TBD
3	Civic Republicanism II	Lovett: chs TBD
4	Commercial Republicanism I	Taylor: Introduction, chs 1-2
5	Commercial Republicanism II	Taylor: chs 3-5, conclusion
6	Republicanism and Globalism I	<i>Articles</i>
7	Republicanism and Globalism II	<i>Articles</i>
E1	Political Theory and Political Science	<i>Articles</i>
E2	Republicanism and Feminism	<i>Articles</i>
E3	Historical Republics	Kaldellis

### WEEK 1

#### Introduction to Contemporary Republicanism

- Pettit and Lovett, 2013. "Neorepublicanism: A Normative and Institutional Research Program", *Annual Review of Political Science*.
- *Secondary & Optional Readings*
  - Lovett, "Republicanism". *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.
  - Lovett, "Oxford Bibliographies: Republicanism"

### WEEK 2

#### Pettit

- *Republicanism: A Theory of Freedom and Government*
- *Secondary & Optional Readings*
  - *On the People's Terms*
  - Lovett, *Republicanism and Social Justice* (Review of People's Terms)

### WEEK 3

#### Lovett

- *A Theory of Freedom and Domination*
- *Secondary & Optional Readings*
  - Lovett has a particularly wide corpus on republicanism, accessible here: <https://sites.wustl.edu/flovett/papers/>

WEEK 4	<p>Taylor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Exit Left</i>. Introduction; chapters 1-2.</li> </ul>
WEEK 5	<p>Taylor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Exit Left</i>. Chapters 3-5; conclusion.</li> <li>• <i>Secondary &amp; Optional Readings</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Optional: Taylor, <i>Market Freedom as Antipower</i></li> <li>– Optional: Taylor, <i>Republicanism and Markets</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
WEEK 6	<p>Republicanism and Globalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costa, 2016. "Republican Liberty and Border Controls" <i>Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy</i></li> <li>• Honohan, 2014. "Domination and Migration: An Alternative Approach to the Legitimacy of Migration Controls" <i>Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy</i></li> <li>• Fine, 2014. "Non-domination and the Ethics of Migration" <i>Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy</i></li> <li>• <i>Secondary &amp; Optional Readings</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Benton, 2014. "The problem of denizenship: a non-domination framework" <i>Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy</i></li> <li>– The latter articles are from a journal special issue, other articles from which can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
WEEK 7	<p>Republicanism and Globalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laborde and Ronzoni, 2016. What Is a Free State? Republican Internationalism and Globalisation, <i>Political Studies</i>.</li> <li>• Laborde, 2010. Republicanism and Global Justice: A Sketch, <i>European Journal of Political Theory</i>.</li> <li>• Lovett, 2016. "Should Republicans be Cosmopolitans?" <i>Global Justice</i>.</li> </ul>

## Further Readings

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EXTENDED TOPICS I	<p>Republicanism and Feminism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costa, 2013. "Is Republicanism Bad for Women?" <i>Hypatia</i></li> <li>• Phillips, 2000. Feminism and Republicanism: Is this a Plausible Alliance? <i>Journal of Political Philosophy</i>.</li> <li>• <i>Selections</i>: Halldenius, 2015. <i>Mary Wollstonecraft and Feminist Republicanism</i>. Routledge.</li> </ul>
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EXTENDED  
TOPICS II

Arguments about Historical Republics

- Kaldellis, 2015. *The Byzantine Republic*

EXTENDED  
TOPICS III

Political Theory in the Space of Modern Political Science

- Kaufman-Osborn, 2010. "Political Theory as Profession and as Subfield?" *Political Research Quarterly*.
- Rehfeld, 2010. "Offensive Political Theory" *Perspectives on Politics*.
- Strauss, 1957. "What is Political Philosophy?" *Journal of Politics*.

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<sup>2</sup>Three extended topics exist as well. With a consensus from the class, we may replace the last week of class with one of the extended topics.