CC 203 - Foundations of the Social Sciences  
Fall, 2008

James Johnson (History) - HS T Th 11-12:30, Core Office Suite
Edward Murphy (Core) - B3 T Th 3:30-5 CAS 212; B6 T Th 2-3:30, CAS 223; B7 T Th 11-12:30 CAS 237
David Roochnik (Philosophy) - B2 T Th 2-3:30, CAS 114A
David Swartz (Sociology) - B5 T Th 11-12:30, CAS 114B
Jon Westling (History) - B4 M W F 10-11, CAS 218

Foundations of the Social Sciences explores the origins of the social sciences in the early-modern period, Enlightenment, and nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It looks at some of the most penetrating and influential commentators on social forces, thinkers whose analyses of politics, economics, class, and religion have shaped contemporary ideas about the structures of society. Themes of the course will include political systems, the promise and perils of democracy, economic justice, and the social impact of religion.

Grades will be determined by your seminar professor. They will be based on a combination of written work, examinations, and class participation, with the midterm counting for 15% and the final for 20% of the total. Your seminar professor will set percentages for papers (45-50%) and participation (20-15%).

Midterm and Final Examinations will be written by the faculty as a whole and given on the dates listed below. Examinations will be based on the lectures, seminars, and readings. Attendance at all lectures is required and is essential for success on exams and in the course.

The Core Writing Center is available for help throughout the semester. Writing Tutors are graduate and undergraduate students who have been trained in grammar and compositional skills and are familiar with the works read in the Core. To make an appointment with a tutor, stop by the Core Office (CAS 119) or call 353-5404. Tutors’ offices are in the Core Office.

Academic Conduct: We expect the work you perform in this course to be your own. Presenting the work of someone else as your own is plagiarism, and it will be punished by an F for the assignment and possibly for the course, with possible further sanctions by the University Academic Conduct Committee.

The Boston University Academic Conduct Code describes plagiarism as: “copying the answers of another student on an examination, copying or substantially restating the work of another person or persons in any oral or written work without citing the appropriate source, and collaboration with someone else in an academic endeavor without acknowledging his or her contribution” (p. 2). A more detailed discussion with examples appears on pp. 9-14 of the Code.

All websites consulted for use in written work must be acknowledged in your papers. Unacknowledged use of material from the internet will be considered plagiarism and
punished as such. It is your responsibility to read these pages from the Academic Conduct Code carefully and know exactly what constitutes plagiarism.

**Required texts are available at the BU Bookstore in Kenmore Square:**

John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government* (Hackett Publishing)
Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Basic Political Writings* (Hackett Publishing)
Adam Smith, *Theory of Moral Sentiments* (Liberty Press)
Charles de Secondat, Baron de Montesquieu, *Selected Political Writings* (Hackett Publishing)
Emile Durkheim, *Suicide* (Simon and Schuster)
Clifford Geertz, “Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight” (on Core CC 203 website)

**Lectures and Reading Assignments:**

Week 1 (September 4) Hobbes, *Leviathan* (pp. 1-27, 57-63, 74-100, 106-45)
Lecturer: Professor James Johnson (Department of History)

Week 2 (September 11) Locke, *Second Treatise of Government* (Chapters 1-15, 18-19; § 240-43)
Lecturer: Professor Susanne Sreedhar (Department of Philosophy)

Week 3 (September 18) Montesquieu, *Selected Political Writings* (55-83, 106-81, 194-213, 218-28)
Lecturer: Professor Jon Westling (Department of History)

Lecturer: Professor Charles Griswold (Department of Philosophy)

Week 5 (October 2) Smith, *Theory of Moral Sentiments* (pp. 9-91, 109-13, 130-39, 171-93)
Lecturer: Professor Aaron Garrett (Department of Philosophy)

Week 6 (October 9) - Adam Smith as Moral Philosopher and Economist (*Theory of Moral Sentiments*, pp. 9-91, 109-13, 130-39, 171-93)
Lecturer: Professor Ted Murphy (Core)

Week 7 (October 16) Midterm Exam

Week 8 (October 23) John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*
Lecturer: Professor David Roochnik (Department of Philosophy)
Lecturer: Professor Jon Westling

Lecturer: Professor David Swartz (Department of Sociology)

Lecturer: Professor David Swartz

Lecturer: Professor Ted Murphy

Week 13 - Thanksgiving Break

Week 14 (December 4) Geertz, “Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight”
Lecturer: TBA

Week 15 - (December 11) Conclusion and review

Final Exam: Tuesday, December 16th, 6-8 PM in CAS Rm. 522

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