

POLITICAL SCIENCE 105 POLITICAL ISSUES

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REQUIRED TEXTS:

McKenna and Feingold, Taking Sides, Clashing Views on Controversial Issues, 16th ed.

Readings from Blackboard

1. What is Politics? Do We Need Government?

Blackboard reading, anarchism

2. What Kind of Government Should We Have? Democracy, Liberalism and Conservatism

Blackboard reading, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, the Declaration of Independence, Federalist Papers. No. 10 and 51, George Soros

Taking Sides, issue 2

3. The Challenge of Fascism, Socialism and Communism

Blackboard reading, Adolf Hitler

4. How Does the Individual Relate to Society and the State?

Taking Sides, issue 9, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19

Blackboard reading, John Stuart Mill

5. The Nation, the State and the Nation-State

Taking Sides, issue 14

6. Where is the Nation-State in the New World Order? Where is the US?

Taking Sides, issue 1, 16, 20, 21

Blackboard reading, Barber, Fukuyama, Huntington

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Political Science 105 is an examination of some of the major issues throughout the history of politics. The role of the individual, the state and the international order will be examined. We will be using many of these age-old concerns to examine some of today's controversial topics.

GRADES: The grades will be assigned as follows:

Class participation 10%

One short paper 10%

two tests each 25% total 50%

final (partially cumulative) 30%

Any work handed in late will be penalized. Class participation will be graded on participation in class and through Blackboard. **Insufficient class participation could necessitate pop quizzes.** Any more than 5 unexcused absences will lower your participation grade by one point per absence. Students are responsible for checking their grades on blackboard. If a grade is missing or incorrect, it is your responsibility to contact me. There will be no makeups, no late papers and no whining after Reading Day, Tuesday December 9.