

POLS 339H, Honors Political Philosophy

<p>General Course Description: (attached)</p>	<p>Briefly describe the non-Honors version of the course (or attach syllabus).</p>																					
<p>Honors Contract Topic: The relevance of political philosophy to contemporary political issues—specific topic TBD</p>	<p>Summarize this project and explain how it individualizes the course. The Honors student will write a research paper, and give an oral presentation, comparing the views of two political philosophers on a topic, and examining its relation to an issue of contemporary political relevance. The Honors student will select a topic based on her interests. The other students will not do a research paper of this depth and magnitude.</p>																					
<p>Methodology/Approach: The Honors student will strive toward gaining a mastery of the texts she uses, and provide an analytical interpretation of these texts. She will also strive to gain mastery of a particular issue in contemporary politics.</p>	<p>List the activities the student will do to complete the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careful reading of the texts, and a great deal of thought about their meaning • Reading of secondary sources, based upon the two philosophers, and the specific issue that she selects • Turn in several draft versions of the paper • Prepare a coherent oral presentation of the conclusions of her paper 																					
<p>Resources:</p>	<p>List specific resources for gathering information for the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The texts used in class • Secondary texts (at the direction of the instructor) 																					
<p>Evaluation: Non-honors students have two take-home essays (4-5 pages each), using no secondary sources, worth a total of 30% of the course grade. In lieu of those, the Honors student will have the one research paper (15-20 pages).</p>	<p>Explain the standards for grading the student’s work and percent of the semester grade for the project. Please detail how the course grade will be determined for both non-honors and honors students. The main part of the grade will be determined based on the quality of the research paper (30%). In addition, Jennifer’s participation grade (5% of the course) will be raised or lowered one level based upon the quality of her oral presentation.</p>																					
<p>Grade Distribution/Criteria:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Course Component</td> <td style="width: 35%; text-align: center;">Non-Honors (Points or %)</td> <td style="width: 35%; text-align: center;">Honors (Points or %)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 in-class exams</td> <td style="text-align: center;">35%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">35%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 take-home essays</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">----</td> </tr> <tr> <td>research paper</td> <td style="text-align: center;">----</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>final exam</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>discussion leader</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>class participation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5% (raised or lowered one level based on oral presentation)</td> </tr> </table>	Course Component	Non-Honors (Points or %)	Honors (Points or %)	2 in-class exams	35%	35%	2 take-home essays	30%	----	research paper	----	30%	final exam	25%	25%	discussion leader	5%	5%	class participation	5%	5% (raised or lowered one level based on oral presentation)	<p>Please list the grade breakdown for both non-honors and honors students in the course.</p>
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