Political Science 454  
Political Utopian Political Thought  
Andrews University  

Monday/Wednesday/Friday 11:30 to 12:20  
Spring 2017

Instructor:  Dr. Gary V. Wood  
Office:  Buller 128  
Hours:  M/W 12:30-2:30; T/R 11:30-1:30 or by appointment  
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Course Description and Objectives:  
This course examines the relationship between the power of modern science and utopian political theory. To this end, we will explore the project to conquer nature and perfect man and consider the likelihood (and consequences) of a more perfect marriage of technology and ideology in the future.

Course Requirements:  
Midterm Examination I: 20% Monday, February 6  
Midterm Examination II: 20% Wednesday, March 15  
Final Examination: 30% Tuesday, May 2  
Term Paper: 20% Wednesday, April 26  
Attendance & Participation: 10%

All exams will be essay. There will be a handout on the 10-12 page paper the second week of the term. In addition, you are expected to attend class on a regular basis, to be current on the readings, and contribute to classroom discussion. More than three (3) absences will result in the forfeiture of the 10% attendance and participation component.

Required Texts:  


Course Outline:

The following is a tentative schedule. Reading assignments and dates may be adjusted but assigned material should be read prior to class.

Week One:
Genesis 1-4, 11; Descartes, 5-20

Week Two:
Descartes, 21-63

Week Three:
Dostoevsky, Notes from the Underground

Week Four:
C. S. Lewis, The Abolition of Man

Week Five:
**Midterm Exam: Monday, February 6**
Martin Heidegger, “Science and Reflection” (handout)

Week Six:
Heidegger, “The Origin of the Work of Art” (handout)

Week Seven:
Heidegger, “The Thing” (handout), Fukuyama, 1-40

Week Eight:
Fukuyama, 41-147

Week Nine:
Fukuyama, 105-218

Week Ten:
**Midterm Exam II: Wednesday, March 15**

Week Eleven:
**Spring Semester Break**

Week Twelve:
Tom Darby, “On Spiritual Crisis, Globalization, and Planetary Rule” (handout)
Week Thirteen:
Leon Kass “Defending Human Dignity” (handout)

Week Fourteen:
Leo Strauss. “An Epilogue”

Week Fifteen:
John Marini, “Theology, Metaphysics, and Positivism” & “Bureaucracy and America” (handouts)

Week Sixteen:
**Term Paper Due: Wednesday, April 26**
Review for Final Exam.

**FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, May 2, 10:30-12:30**