

PST Political and Social Thought—Core Seminar II

Spring Term 2024

Professor Isaac Ariail Reed (iar2c@virginia.edu)

Mondays, 3:30-6:00

Office hours, Randall Hall 221: <https://scheduleisaacariailreed.as.me>

Written responses of 500-800 words are due each week by midnight on Sunday before class meets on Monday, uploaded to the Canvas website. **You can skip one week.** There are 11 weeks of reading, so there are 10 response papers that will be the basis for your grade in the course.

Required Books and Films

Note: You are responsible for acquiring/streaming the following books/film. All other readings will be posted to the class collaborative website.

Carol J. Clover, *Men, Women, and Chainsaws: Gender in the Modern Horror Film*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. 2015.

W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk* Norton Critical Editions. 1999. ISBN: 039397393X

W.E.B. Du Bois, *Black Reconstruction in America: An Essay Toward a History of the Part Which Black Folk Played in the Attempt to Reconstruct Democracy in America, 1860-1880*. Oxford University Press, 2014.

Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*. Vintage Books, Second Edition. 1995.

The Republic of Plato, translated, with notes and an interpretive essay, and a new introduction by Allan Bloom. Basic Books. 1991.

Mikhail Sebastian, *For Two Thousand Years*, translated from the Romanian by Philip Ó Ceallaigh. With a Forward by Mark Mazower. New York: Other Press. 2017 [1934].

Robert C. Tucker, editor, *The Marx-Engels Reader* (Second edition). W.W. Norton. 1978.

Reading and Viewing Schedule for Political and Social Thought Core Seminar II

January 22

Introduction to Second Semester

Part I: Authority and Power, Labor and Exchange

January 29

The Republic of Plato, translated, with notes and an interpretive essay, and a new introduction by Allan Bloom. Basic Books. 1991. **Books 4-10.**

February 5

Robert C. Tucker, editor, *The Marx-Engels Reader* (Second edition), pp. 66-125, 143-200, 294-442, 734-759.

February 12

W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk* Norton Critical Editions. 1999. ISBN: 039397393X. **Chapters 1, 2, 4, 8, 9.**

W.E.B. Du Bois, *Black Reconstruction in America: An Essay Toward a History of the Part Which Black Folk Played in the Attempt to Reconstruct Democracy in America, 1860-1880*. Oxford University Press, 2014. **Chapters 1, 2, 3, 16.**

February 19

Film: *Hannah Arendt*, by Margarethe von Trotta. Zeitgeist Films. 2013.

Reading: Hannah Arendt, "Authority in the Twentieth Century," *The Review of Politics*. 1956: **403-417.**

Supplementary Suggestions:

Hannah Arendt, "Thinking and Moral Considerations: A Lecture" *Social Research* 51 (1/2): 7-37.

Hannah Arendt, "Man's Conquest of Space" *The American Scholar* 32(4): 527-540, 1963.

Hannah Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*. Penguin Books, 2006.

February 26

Carole Pateman, *The Sexual Contract* (Stanford University Press, 1988), pp. 19-115.

Gayle Rubin, "The Traffic in Women: Notes of the Political Economy of Sex" pp. 157-210 in *Toward an Anthropology of Women*, edited by R. Reiter. New York: Monthly Review Press, 1975.

SPRING BREAK March 2-March 10

March 11

Mikhail Sebastian, *For Two Thousand Years*, translated from the Romanian by Philip Ó Ceallaigh. With a Forward by Mark Mazower. New York: Other Press. 2017 [1934].

March 18

Consolidation/Brief lecture on Max Weber

Part II: Symbols/Society/Modernity

March 25

Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction," pp. 217-252 in *Illuminations*. New York: Schocken Books. 1968.

Walter Benjamin, "Theses on the Philosophy of History," pp. 253-264 in *Illuminations*. New York: Schocken Books. 1968.

Eric Voegelin, "Gnosticism: The Nature of Modernity," pp. 175-195 in *Modernity Without Restraint (The Collected Works of Eric Voegelin, Volume 5)*, edited with an introduction by Manfred Henningsen. Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press, 2000.

April 1

Philip Rieff, *Triumph of the Therapeutic: Uses of Faith after Freud*. Wilmington, Delaware: ISI Books. 2006.

Introduction, chapters 1,2,3,4. Optional: chapters 6,8.

April 8

Carol J. Clover, *Men, Women, and Chainsaws: Gender in the Modern Horror Film*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. 2015. **Introduction, chapters 1, 2.**

Umberto Eco, "Narrative Structures in Fleming" pp. **157-182** in *Gender, Language, and Myth: Essays on Popular Narrative*, edited by Glenwood Irons. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1992.

April 15

Paul Gilroy, *The Black Atlantic: Modernity and Double Consciousness*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. 1993. **Preface, Chapters 1, 2, 4, 6.**

April 22

Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*. Vintage Books, Second Edition. 1995.

April 29

Consolidation/NAQ