



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLS 2023-3143
Introduction to Political Theory
Fall 2009 Semester

Dr. Ken Hicks
Meets: MW 4:00-5:15 PM
Room: PH 314

Take Home Essay #3

Instructions

Please select **one** (1) of the following numbered topics, and write an essay examining the issues that seem relevant. The essay should be typewritten, double-spaced, and follow conventional formatting standards. References should be parenthetical, merely listing the author of the relevant text and page number. Citations not coming from assigned texts should employ an identifiable referencing style (e.g. APA, Chicago, MLA, Turabian, etc.).

In order to submit this take-home examination, please print this file, check the box of the essay selected, and affix this file to the front of the essay. Please sign and date the statement below indicating that the essay submitted is the student's own work and no one others. Failure to follow the procedures as described in this file will result in an automatic 10% reduction in student's grade for the assignment.

Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor by telephone (343-7687) or email (kennethhicks@rsu.edu) if you have any questions or concerns.

- Is Locke a liberal? Why or why not? What are the crucial distinguishing features of liberal political thought? How does Locke's political philosophy correspond to the central claims of liberal political philosophy?
- Does Rousseau bear responsibility for the excesses of the French Revolution? Write an essay analyzing Rousseau as a revolutionary figure. Is Rousseau an advocate of a virtuous republicanism or the "architect of totalitarianism"? Is it possible for him to be both?
- Write an essay comparing – from a "Burkean" perspective – the Glorious Revolution or the American Revolution with the French Revolution. Based on Burke's analysis, what makes the former two "good revolutions," while rendering the latter a "bad" one? What does this analysis suggest about the general utility of revolutions? Is Burke always against revolution?

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

By signing above, I hereby affirm that the essay appended is my own and no other under penalty of perjury, in accordance with Title XII of the Student Handbook.