

Instructions:

- **Select only 4 questions**
- **You have 45 minutes to finish the test**
- **The total grade is 20 (5 points each)**
- **Make sure to answer all parts of the question**

Questions:

- 1. Make a comparison between Orwell and Foucault's views on power.
Then indicate how they explain significance of legitimate authority.**

Both Orwell and Foucault argue that language through speech in a political manner could easily be deceptive instead, with a self-interest approach instead of pursuing the common good. Orwell in one hand explains how politicians can use “bad language” to get into peoples minds. He argues that language can be use a **tool of political control** instead of using logic and justice and this is well presented in his most known book “Animal Farm”. In the other hand, Foucault believed that **language construct our thoughts**, therefore institutions were telling us in what to believe and in what not, which person is normal and which is deviant, almost controlling our ideas and perspectives. He called this, biopolitics.

Both were against the idea that through language a good and legitimate authority is elected as someone that receives this title needs to have a transparent, accepted by the people which are governed and achieves the power in a fair way.

- 2. Mention the Approaches to studying politics and provide an example for two of them.**

Behaviourist (tries to predict the behaviour of a person in a political process), Rational choice(no necessarily thinks that individuals are self interested but that they act according to their preferences, Interpretivism (reality is constructed through meanings examining ideas, ideology poststructuralism) and Constructivism (realities are formed by social interaction, experiences)

- 3. How do we define “democracy”? Is our definition of the concept valid?
Explain the two types of democracy.**

Is a form of government that allows people to choose their rulers (rule by people). Some, like Aristotle for example thought that the concept of democracy was not totally valid as the the poor ones, many times the majority of the population are subjugated by the rich ones, therefore not everyone that is ruled in the same manners or democratically. Therefore in doesn't approach the common good and the

“rule of people” is not present as many have to follow what the people in power say. Two examples are direct democracy in which the citizens themselves make the governing decisions and liberal democracy where the individualistic view rules, freedom and limited government join with the election of representatives of democracy

4. Explain what the story of Thucydides tell us about society and power, then answer: How do the conditions of the Athenian polis compare with our own notions of state?

Thucydides was an general in the Peloponnesian war. He decided to record what happened at the time so he wrote about it. In a non-biased way Thucydides recount how Sparta and Athens were the two states with more power and how Athens started wanting to have even more power than them by conquering other states and attacking spartan troops. One of the most known cities that were invaded by them was Milos, although it was neutral regarding the war Athenians only gave them two options: or they join them or destroy them as it is said in the dialogue “The strong do what they can and the weak suffer what they must”. Finally every man in Milos was killed and the women an children sold and slaves. Thanks to Thucydides we acquire the first political analysis ever existed and acknowledge what power without any control could be badly exerted. This is really different to nowadays as after the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648 each state was considered sovereign meaning that there was not a external authority to govern them within their territories.

5. How might one define “devolution” as a political process, and how does this process intersect with ideas of nationalism?

Devolution is a when the central government grants some legislative and administrative political power to a regional government. This process intersects with nationalism as the regional governments are closer to people. Therefore, they are more aware of the people’s needs, interests and their backgrounds, this could help to create a bigger national unity. The nation-state could be more focused in each individual and small cities for example would be left appart

6. “Some argued that women should be protected from the harsh realities of politics, while others viewed women as more prone to emotion than reason”. Which 3 ideologies go against these statement? Explain.

POLI 103 - World Of Politics
Mid-Term Exam #2

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Questions:

- 1. What is common good and which form of government is related to it? Then explain how does the individualist perspective and the ways of exert power go against common good?**

The common good is what is best for a political community and its related to democracy. The individualist perspective go against this as is self-interest. A person acts in way that he for she thinks is "okay" or is the best for the rest of the community without considering what the rest actually wants or needs. The four main ways to exert power are through coercion (using fear), inducements (offering a reward), persuasion (trying to convince someone maybe using exaggeration) or leadership (a government is acting in a good manner and others want to follow).

- 2. What is a "Philosophy of Science" and what do Karl Popper says about it and about the concept of falsifiability?**

Philosophy of science is the one that analyzes the methods used in sciences. For Karl Popper there are two types of sciences: science and pseudo science. He referred to pseudo science to the sciences that could not be falsified. This meant that they could not be proven wrong and there was always be another explanation if what was predicted didn't happened as psicoanalysis with Freud or the war between classes according to Marx. What it is actual science is the one that can be actually falsified, for example the gravitational theory of Einstein. If what he theorized didn't happened with theory would be wrong that's why it real science.

- 3. What is expertise and how is related with authority? Which is the difference between fact and opinion?**

Expertise is an exceptionally high levels of performance on a particular task or within a given domain. This concept is related to authority as it is an attribute needed to exercise power or control efficiently. An authority needs to know with clarity what are its objectives and what wants to be achieved therefore it needs to be good at doing what he or she does as it may affect large quantities of people too. A fact is something that actually happened and can be proven right or wrong whereas opinion is someone's certain point of view towards something and cannot be proven right or wrong

4. Why the possibility of international governance is limited? Consider the concepts of “National interest” and “International system” in your answer.

It is limited as each state have different interest or goal to approach. Not all the governments in each state think the same way so that's why is better is they pursue what they want to achieve separately.

5. Which benefits brings a Federal System and how it is relationated with liberalism and democracy?

Unitary systems have many benefits. Some of them are that they are able to provide a national common goods, greater attention to national problems it is easier so find a job in different parts of the country, same level of government services in all regions. Federal systems help that people that life in remote areas are not left apart, makes it easier for citizens to participate in the law-making progress, there is a greater diversity, makes it easier to try new policies and limits the concentration of power.

6. Once we start thinking about revolution, we are led to think, further, about the sorts of ideologies that revolution helps to shape as well as fight. Mention and explain 2 of these ideologies.

Liberalism: it believes individualistic freedom. Believes that the government should have limited power because if not is can started going against the liberty of the people. Also believes in a free markets and that everyone have the same rights

Conservatism: believes in values or order, tradition, respect to the authority. It thinks that humans are imperfect and they have limited capacity of reasoning. Religion-based moral values and the upper classes should protect the poor

Socialism: believes that human beings are naturally social and capitalism undermines this cooperative community that could be formed. Everyone should have the same, an equal society as capitalism only constructs inequalities



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Fascism: is an aggressive nationalism that think that the leader should be totalitarian and the rest of the society should obey its orders. Believes that it should be inequality