RELIGIOUS ETHICS III
RELIGION AND THE POLITICAL ORDER

This examination requires students to demonstrate knowledge of classical and modern theories in Western theology and philosophy concerning the origins, purposes, and legitimation of political communities and institutions. Focal topics include the basis of and relationship between religious and political authority, the ends of politics, the nature of political rationality and ideology, obedience and freedom, realism and idealism, liberty and equality, the meaning of citizenship, and the moral sources of political power. Special attention will be paid to the role of religion in the political theories under review along with the norms and ideas that are used to conceptualize religion or to distinguish between religions in political life.

Students must have a command of the following texts or excerpts therefrom:

Plato, Republic

Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, V; X: 9
The Politics

Augustine, City of God:
Book I
Book XII, pars. 1-8;
Book XIV
Book XIX

Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologiae,
I, Q. 79, Aa., 12, 13
I-II, Qq. 90-97
II-II, Qq. 10-11, 42, 47, 50, 57, 58, 61, 66

Martin Luther, “The Freedom of the Christian”
“On Secular Authority: To What Extent It Should Be Obeyed”
“Against the Murdering and Robbing Hordes of Peasants”


Francisco de Vitoria, *De Indis: On the Law of War*

Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince*

John Calvin, *Institutes on the Christian Religion*, Bk III, Chap. 19, pars. 1-5, 15-16; Bk IV, Chap. 20

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Introduction; Books 1, 2

John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*
*Letter Concerning Toleration*

J. J. Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin and Foundations of Inequality Among Men*
*The Social Contract*

Immanuel Kant, *Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch*

G.W.F Hegel, *The Philosophy of Right* (Part III)

Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*

Abraham Lincoln, “Second Inaugural Address”

Karl Marx, *The 1844 Manuscripts*
*Theses on Feuerbach*

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*

Sigmund Freud, *Civilization and Its Discontents*

Cady Stanton, *Solitude of Self*

John Dewey, *The Public and Its Problems*
*A Common Faith*

Reinhold Niebuhr, *Moral Man and Immoral Society*

Roman Catholic Social Teachings Select documents

Political Liberalism (expanded edition: 2005), Introductions and pp. 1-43; 47-66; 77-86; 133-158; 190-206.

Gustavo Gutierrez, *A Theology of Liberation*


Michael Walzer, *Spheres of Justice: A Defense of Pluralism and Equality*  
Just and Unjust Wars: A Moral Argument with Historical Illustrations

Seyla Benhabib, *Situating the Self: Gender, Community, and Postmodernism in Contemporary Ethics*

Richard Rorty, *Contingency, Irony, and Solidarity*

Susan Moller Okin, *Justice, Gender, and the Family*

Traci C. West, *Wounds of the Spirit: Black Women, Violence, and Resistance Ethics*

Charles Mills, *The Racial Contract*

Michael Northcott, *A Political Theology of Climate Change*

Stephen Gardiner, *A Perfect Moral Storm*