

PHILOSOPHY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Political Science 493/593
Portland State University, Fall 2017

[David Kinsella](#)

[Department of Political Science](#)

Hatfield School of Government

Office: Urban Center Building, room 650L

503.725.3035 | kinsella@pdx.edu

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 1:00-2:00

Description

Alternative facts. Fake news. Pejorative labels like these are meant to call into question the validity of one's empirical evidence or the interpretation one attaches to that evidence, or both. And although these labels entered the popular discourse during the 2016 U.S. Presidential campaign, and are thus tools wielded to discredit political opponents, scientists have contemplated the logic and empirical methods of their disciplines at least as far back as the 17th century when Descartes proposed that "I think, therefore I am." This course provides an overview of such philosophical questions of social science as they apply to the field of political science, with some bias toward the subfield of international relations.

Philosophy of social science includes competing views on epistemology, or theories of knowledge. For example, must our understanding of the political world be based solely on objective observation (just the facts), or is it also based on something more, perhaps intuition or our capacity for abstract reasoning? Philosophy of social science also includes competing views on ontology, or theories of social being. The so-called agent-structure debate is one such preoccupation. Are freely acting individuals the prime drivers of political events, or are their choices severely constrained, even predetermined, by the social structures enveloping them? Political scientists, not least IR theorists, have given much thought to both epistemological and ontological questions attached to the conduct and accumulation of empirical research within the discipline.

The course is divided into two main parts. The first half presents and elaborates a broadly-speaking positivist view of social science wherein political scientists are encouraged to emulate an approach to research found in the natural sciences. The second half explores what are essentially post-positivist views wherein the subject matter of political science requires a philosophical approach to investigation fundamentally different from the traditional scientific perspective.

This is a required course for political science students in the undergraduate [honors program](#) and the [master's program](#) and for doctoral students in the [Public Affairs and Policy program](#).

Learning Objectives

The general objective of this course is to develop the student's capacity to critically examine... These objectives are to be accomplished by exposing students to relevant literature from.... By the end of the term, students should be able to:

- grasp alternative epistemological and ontological positions in the social scientific literature, especially political science;
- connect the evolution of philosophical debates to the history of the political science discipline;
- ascertain these philosophical positions in political research even when they are not made explicit by researchers; and
- critically reflect on their own epistemological proclivities when designing and conducting social scientific research for their thesis projects.

Requirements and Evaluation

In this course, the main workload consists of assigned reading. Required readings should be read carefully prior to the session for which they are scheduled. All students are assigned readings indicated with solid bullets (•); graduate students are assigned, in addition, those with open bullets (◦). A number of supplemental readings are provided should want to follow up on particular topics that interest you; none are assigned for this course.

Undergraduate course grades are based on an in-class [midterm exam](#) (35%) and either a [take-home](#) or an [in-class final exam](#), student's choice (65%). Graduate course grades are based on three [short papers](#) (30%), each offering a critical review of the reading assigned for that week, and a take-home final (60%). Graduate students will also be asked to make one or two brief [presentations](#) on a reading from the graduate reading list (10%).

Readings

There are no required textbooks for this course. All required readings are available online. Unless the reading includes a link to a web or D2L file, it is available online from the PSU library. You must retrieve these readings (all journal articles) by logging into the [PSU library website](#) and locating and downloading the article from one of the library's full-content subscription services.

For those interested in background or integrative reading material on philosophy of social science most relevant to political science and international relations, there are several options, including:

- Jon Elster, *Explaining Social Behavior: More Nuts and Bolts for the Social Sciences* (Cambridge University Press, 2015).
- Len Doyal and Roger Harris, *Empiricism, Explanation and Rationality: An Introduction to the Philosophy of the Social Sciences* (Routledge, 2008).
- Martin Hollis, *The Philosophy of Social Science: An Introduction* (Cambridge University Press, 1994).
- Ted Benton and Ian Craib, *Philosophy of Social Science: The Philosophical Foundations of Social Thought* (Palgrave, 2001).
- Daniel Little, *Varieties of Social Explanation: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Social Science* (Westview, 1990).
- Fred Chernoff, *Theory and Metatheory in International Relations: Concepts and Contending Accounts* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2007).
- Patrick Thaddeus Jackson, *The Conduct of Inquiry in International Relations: Philosophy of Science and its Implications for the Study of World Politics* (Routledge, 2011).

The assigned readings generally include work from both the philosophy of science and from political science, and sometimes other social science disciplines as well. The philosophy of science readings are usually quite dense and difficult to get through, but students are asked to persevere in order to build a conceptual vocabulary that will make the philosophically-oriented political science readings more intelligible (though by no means easy). Bottom line: expect to struggle with the reading, and don't be discouraged when you find it baffling.

Conduct and Courtesy

Students are responsible for being familiar with the PSU Student [Code of Conduct](#), especially the section concerning academic misconduct—that is, plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty. If you are unsure of the definition or consequences of academic misconduct, consult your instructor.

Because they are distracting to others, cell phones (voice or text) and MP3 players may not be used during lecture and should be turned off at the start of class. Laptops and tablets may be used to take notes, but not for email, web browsing, or social media. Electronic devices may not be used to photograph, video, or stream course lectures or discussion, but lectures may be audio recorded with permission of the instructor.

Student Resources

If you have, or think you may have, a disability that may affect your work in this class and feel you need accommodations, contact the [Disability Resource Center](#) to schedule an appointment and initiate a conversation about reasonable accommodations. The [C.A.R.E. Team](#), hosted by the Dean of Student Life, is available to consult with you regarding any issues of students in distress, including sexual misconduct.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE and ASSIGNMENTS

27 Sep Who Cares about Philosophy of Social Science?

Required

- Jay Ogilvy, "Alternative Facts in a Post-Truth World?" *Stratfor Worldview*, 1 February 2017. ([web](#))
- Andrew Calcutt, "The Surprising Origins of 'Post-Truth'—and how it was spawned by the Liberal Left." *The Conversation*, 18 November 2016. ([web](#))
- Molly Worthen, "The Evangelical Roots of Our Post-Truth Society." *New York Times*. 23 April 2017. ([web](#))
- [slides](#)

4 Oct Science, Positivism, and Political Behavior

Required

- Karl Popper, *The Logic of Scientific Discovery* (Routledge, 1992 [orig. 1935]), chaps. 1-2. ([D2L](#))
- Gabriel A. Almond and Stephen J. Genco, "Clouds, Clocks, and the Study of Politics." *World*

Politics 29 (July 1977), 489-522.

- Gary King, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba, *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research* (Princeton University Press, 1994), chap. 1. ([web](#))
- Charles E. Lindblom, "The Science of 'Muddling Through'." *Public Administration Review* 19 (Spring 1959): 79-88.
- Justin Grimmer, "We Are All Social Scientists Now: How Big Data, Machine Learning, and Causal Inference Work Together." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 48 (January 2015): 80-83.
- [slides](#)

Supplemental

- Carl Hempel, "The Function of General Laws in History." *Journal of Philosophy* 39 (1942): 35-48.
- F. A. Hayek, *The Counter-Revolution of Science: Studies on the Abuse of Reason* (The Free Press, 1952).
- James Johnson, "Consequences of Positivism: A Pragmatic Assessment." *Comparative Political Studies* 39 (March 2006): 224-252.
- Harold Kincaid, "Defending Laws in the Social Sciences." *Philosophy of the Social Sciences* 20 (March 1990): 56-83.
- Robert A. Dahl, "The Behavioral Approach in Political Science: Epitaph for a Monument to a Successful Protest." *American Political Science Review* 55 (December 1961): 763-772.
- Gabriel A. Almond, "Political Theory and Political Science." *American Political Science Review* 60 (December 1966): 869-879.
- Morton A. Kaplan, "The New Great Debate: Traditionalism vs. Science in International Relations." *World Politics* 19 (October 1966): 1-20. [21]
- Kenneth N. Waltz, *Theory of International Politics* (McGraw-Hill, 1979).
- David Easton, "The New Revolution in Political Science." *American Political Science Review* 63 (December 1969): 1051-1061.
- James Farr, "Remembering the Revolution: Behavioralism in American Political Science." In *Political Science in History: Research Programs and Political Traditions*, ed. James Farr, John S. Dryzek, and Stephen T. Leonard (Cambridge University Press, 1995).
- James W. Davis, *Terms of Inquiry: On the Theory and Practice of Political Science* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005), chaps. 3-4.
- Niels Goet, "What Big Data Can Teach Political Scientists." *OxPol: The Oxford University Politics Blog*, 27 April 2017.

11 Oct

Quantifiers and Their Critics

Required

- Timothy J. McKeown, "Case Studies and the Statistical Worldview: Review of King, Keohane, and Verba's *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*." *International Organization* 53 (Winter 1999): 161-190.
- James Mahoney and Gary Goertz, "A Tale of Two Cultures: Contrasting Quantitative and Qualitative Research." *Political Analysis* 14 (June 2006): 227-249.
- Lynn M. Sanders, "Democratic Politics and Survey Research." *Philosophy of the Social Sciences* 29 (June 1999): 248-280.
- Donald P. Green and Alan S. Gerber, "The Underprovision of Experiments in Political Science." *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 589 (September 2003): 94-112.

- Philip A. Schrodt, "Seven Deadly Sins of Contemporary Quantitative Political Analysis." *Journal of Peace Research* 51 (2014): 287-300.
- [slides](#)

Supplemental

- David John Gow, "Quantification and Statistics in the Early Years of American Political Science, 1880-1922." *Political Methodology* 11 (1985): 1-18.
- J. David Singer, "The Incomplete Theorist: Insight Without Evidence." In *Contending Approaches to International Politics*, ed. K. Knorr and J. Rosenau (Princeton University Press, 1968).
- Hedley Bull, "International Theory: The Case for a Classical Approach." *World Politics* 18 (April 1966): 361-377.
- Hayward R. Alker, Jr., "The Long Road to International Relations Theory: Problems of Statistical Nonadditivity." *World Politics* 18 (July 1966): 623-655.
- Bruce M. Russett, "The Young Science of International Politics." *World Politics* 22 (October 1969): 87-94.
- Roger D. Spegele, "Science and Common Sense in the Study of International Politics." *Review of International Studies* 10 (January 1984): 19-39.
- John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, "Leaving Theory Behind: Why Simplistic Hypothesis Testing is Bad for International Relations." *European Journal of International Relations* 19 (September 2013): 427-457.
- Patrick Thaddeus Jackson, *The Conduct of Inquiry in International Relations: Philosophy of Science and its Implications for the Study of World Politics* (Routledge, 2011), chaps. 2-3.
- Christopher H. Achen, "Toward a New Political Methodology: Microfoundations and ART." *Annual Review of Political Science* 5 (2002): 423-50.

18 Oct

Rational Choice

Required

- Milton Friedman, *Essays in Positive Economics* (University of Chicago Press, 1953), chap. 1. ([D2L](#))
- Terry M. Moe, "On the Scientific Status of Rational Models." *American Journal of Political Science* 23 (February 1979): 215-243.
- Bruce Bueno de Mesquita. "Toward a Scientific Understanding of International Conflict: A Personal View." *International Studies Quarterly* 29 (1985): 121-136.
- Amos Tversky and Daniel Kahneman, "Judgment under Uncertainty: Heuristics and Biases." *Science* 185 (September 1974): 1124-1131.
- Amartya Sen, "Rational Fools: A Critique of the Behavioral Foundations of Economic Theory." *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 6 (Summer 1977): 317-344.
- [slides](#)

Supplemental

- Donald P. Green and Ian Shapiro, *Pathologies of Rational Choice Theory: A Critique of Applications in Political Science* (Yale University Press, 1994).
- Mary K. Farmer, "Rational Action in Economic and Social Theory: Some Misunderstandings." *European Journal of Sociology* 23 (May 1982): 179-197.
- Daniel Diermeier, "Rational Choice and the Role of Theory in Political Science." *Critical Review* 9 (Winter-Spring 1995): 59-70.

- John Ferejohn and Debra Satz, "Unification, Universalism, and Rational Choice Theory." *Critical Review* 9 (Winter-Spring 1995): 71-84.
- Iain Hampsher-Monk and Andrew Hindmoor, "Rational Choice and Interpretive Evidence: Caught between a Rock and a Hard Place?" *Political Studies* 58 (2010): 47-65.
- Jon Elster, *Sour Grapes: Studies in the Subversion of Rationality* (Cambridge University Press, 1983), chap. 1.
- Jon Elster, *Solomonic Judgements: Studies in the Limitations of Rationality* (Cambridge University Press, 1989), chap. 4.
- Russell Hardin, "Rationality, Irrationality and Functionalist Explanation." *Social Science Information* 19 (1980): 755-772.
- Daniel Kahneman, *Thinking, Fast and Slow* (Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2011).
- Herbert A. Simon, "Human Nature in Politics: The Dialogue of Psychology with Political Science." *American Political Science Review* 79 (June 1985): 293-304.
- H el ene Landemore, "Politics and the Economist-King: Is Rational Choice Theory the Science of Choice?" *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 1 (2004): 185-207.
- David D. Laitin, "The Perestroika Challenge to Social Science." *Politics and Society* 31 (March 2003): 163-184.

25 Oct **Paradigms and Progress**

Required

- Thomas Kuhn, *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, second ed. (University of Chicago Press, 1970), chaps. 9-10. ([D2L](#))
- Imre Lakatos, "Falsification and the Methodology of Scientific Research Programmes." In Imre Lakatos, *The Methodology of Scientific Research Programmes: Philosophical Papers, volume 1*, ed. John Worrall and Gregory Currie (Cambridge University Press, 1978): 8-52. ([D2L](#))
- Thomas C. Walker, "The Perils of Paradigm Mentalities: Revisiting Kuhn, Lakatos, and Popper." *Perspectives on Politics* 8 (June 2010): 433-451.
- Rob Kitchin, "Big Data, New Epistemologies and Paradigm Shifts." *Big Data and Society* (April-June 2014): 1-12.

Supplemental

- Terence Ball, "From Paradigms to Research Programs: Toward a Post-Kuhnian Political Science." *American Journal of Political Science* 20 (February 1976): 151-177.
- Philip L. Beardsley, "Political Science: The Case of the Missing Paradigm." *Political Theory* 2 (February 1974): 46-61.
- Gabriel Almond, *A Discipline Divided: Schools and Sects in Political Science* (Sage, 1990), chap. 1.
- Nicholas Henry, "Paradigms of Public Administration." *Public Administration Review* 35 (July-August 1975): 378-386.
- Bent Flyvbjerg, *Making Social Science Matter: Why Social Inquiry Fails and How it Can Succeed Again* (Cambridge University Press, 2001)
- Sanford Schram, "Return to Politics: Perestroika and Postparadigmatic Political Science." *Political Theory* 31 (December 2003): 835-851.
- Kristen Renwick Monroe, ed., *Perestroika: The Raucous Rebellion in Political Science* (Yale

University Press, 2005).

- Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman, "Lessons from Lakatos." In *Progress in International Relations Theory: Appraising the Field*, ed. Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman (MIT Press, 2003).
- Colin Wight, "Incommensurability and Cross-Paradigm Communication in International Relations Theory: 'What's the Frequency, Kenneth?'" *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 25 (1996): 291-320
- Patrick Thaddeus Jackson and Daniel H. Nexon, "Paradigmatic Faults in International-Relations Theory." *International Studies Quarterly* 53 (December 2009): 907-930.
- Fred Chernoff, "Science, Progress and Pluralism in the Study of International Relations." *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 41 (2013): 346-366.

1 Nov **Midterm** (undergraduates)
Discussion (graduates, NH 389)

8 Nov **Facts, Values, Politics, Policy**

Required

- Max Weber, "Science as a Vocation" [1918]. Reprinted in *Daedalus* 87 (Winter 1958): 111-134.
- Charles Taylor, "Neutrality in Political Science." In *Readings in the Philosophy of Social Science*, ed. Michael Martin and Lee C. McIntyre (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1967). ([D2L](#))
- Ido Oren, *Our Enemies and US: America's Rivalries and the Making of Political Science* (Cornell University Press, 2003), chap. 4. ([D2L](#))
- David Dessler, "The Use and Abuse of Social Science for Policy." *SAIS Review* 9 (Summer-Fall 1989): 203-223.

Supplemental

- Charles E. Lindblom and David K. Cohen, *Usable Knowledge: Social Science and Social Problem Solving* (Yale University Press, 1979).
- Richard Rorty, "Method, Social Science, and Social Hope." *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 11 (December 1981): 569-588
- David M. Ricci, *The Tragedy of Political Science: Politics, Scholarship, and Democracy* (Yale University Press, 1984).
- Rogers M. Smith, "Reconnecting Political Theory to Empirical Inquiry, or, A Return to the Cave?" In *The Evolution of Political Knowledge: Theory and Inquiry in American Politics*, ed. Edward D. Mansfield and Richard Sisson (Ohio State University Press, 2003).
- Ian Shapiro, *The Flight from Reality in the Human Sciences* (Princeton University Press, 2005), chap. 5.
- Gerardo Munck and Richard Snyder, *Passion, Craft, and Method in Comparative Politics* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006).
- Philip E. Tetlock, *Expert Political Judgment: How Good Is It? How Can We Know?* (Princeton University Press, 2005).
- Joseph Leggold and Miroslav Nincic, *Beyond the Ivory Tower: International Relations Theory and*

the Issue of Policy Relevance (Columbia University Press, 2001).

- Bruce Russett, "Bushwhacking the Democratic Peace." *International Studies Perspectives* 6 (November 2005): 395-408.
- Henry Nau, "Scholarship and Policy-Making: Who Speaks Truth to Whom?" In *Oxford Handbook of International Relations*, ed. Christian Reus-Smit and Duncan Snidal (Oxford University Press, 2008).
- Richard Ned Lebow, *The Tragic Vision of Politics: Ethics, Interests, and Orders* (Cambridge University Press, 2003).
- John Gerring and Joshua Yesnowitz, "A Normative Turn in Political Science?" *Polity* 38 (January 2006): 101-133.
- Bent Flyvbjerg, "A Perestroika Straw Man Answers Back: David Laitin and Phronetic Political Science." *Politics and Society* 32 (September 2004): 389-416.

15 Nov

Interpretivism

Required

- Charles Taylor, "Interpretation and the Sciences of Man." *Review of Metaphysics* 25 (September 1971): 3-51.
- Clifford Geertz, "Thick Description: Toward an Interpretive Theory of Culture." In *The Interpretation of Cultures: Selected Essays* (Basic Books, 1973). ([D2L](#))
- Joel D. Schwartz, "Participation and Multisubjective Understanding: An Interpretivist Approach to the Study of Political Participation." *Journal of Politics* 46 (1984): 1117-1141.
- Charles Kurzman, "Can Understanding Undermine Explanation? The Confused Experience of Revolution." *Philosophy of the Social Sciences* 34 (September 2004): 328-351.

Supplemental

- Max Weber, "'Objectivity' in Social Science and Social Policy." In *Max Weber on The Methodology of the Social Sciences*, trans. and ed. Edward A. Shils and Henry A. Finch (Free Press, 1949).
- Peter Winch, *The Idea of a Social Science and its Relation to Philosophy* (Routledge, 1958), chaps. 2-3
- Quentin Skinner, "Meaning and Understanding in the History of Ideas." *History and Theory* 8 (1969): 3-53.
- Steven Lukes, "Different Cultures, Different Rationalities?" *History of the Human Sciences* 13 (2000): 3-18.
- Dvora Yanow, "Thinking Interpretively: Philosophical Presuppositions and the Human Sciences." In *Interpretation and Method: Empirical Research Methods and the Interpretive Turn*, ed. D. Yanow and P. Schwartz-Shea (M.E. Sharpe, 2006).
- Michael Gibbons, "Hermeneutics, Political Inquiry, and Practical Reason: An Evolving Challenge to Political Science." *American Political Science Review* 100 (November 2006): 563-571.
- Mark Bevir and R.A.W. Rhodes, "Interpretive Political Science: Mapping the Field." In *Routledge Handbook of Interpretive Political Science*, ed. Mark Bevir and R.A.W. Rhodes (Routledge, 2016).
- Mark Bevir and Karsten Stueber, "Empathy, Rationality, and Explanation." *Journal of the Philosophy of History* 5 (2011): 147-162.
- Robert H. Bates, Rui J.P. de Figueiredo Jr., and Barry Weingast, "The Politics of Interpretation: Rationality, Culture, and Transition." *Politics and Society* 26 (June 1998): 603-642.

- James Johnson, "How Conceptual Problems Migrate: Rational Choice, Interpretation, and the Hazards of Pluralism." *Annual Review of Political Science* 5 (2002): 223-248.
- Michael Walzer, *Interpretation and Social Criticism* (Harvard University Press, 1987), chaps. 1-2.
- Dvora Yanow and Peregrine Schwartz-Shea, eds., *Interpretation and Method: Empirical Research Methods and the Interpretive Turn*, 2nd ed. (M.E. Sharpe, 2014).

22 Nov

Realism

Required

- Roy Bhaskar, *A Realist Theory of Science* (Humanities Press, 1975), chap. 1. ([D2L](#))
- Ruth Lane, "Positivism, Scientific Realism and Political Science: Recent Developments in the Philosophy of Science." *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 8 (1996): 361-382.
- Nivien Saleh, "Philosophical Pitfalls: The Methods Debate in American Political Science." *Journal of Integrated Social Sciences* 1 (2009): 141-176.
- Ian Shapiro and Alexander Wendt, "The Difference that Realism Makes: Social Science and the Politics of Consent." *Politics and Society* 20 (June 1992): 197-223.
- Colin Wight, "A Manifesto for Scientific Realism in IR: Assuming the Can Opener Won't Work!" *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 35 (2007): 379-398.
- [slides](#)

Supplemental

- Rom Harré, *The Principles of Scientific Thinking* (Palgrave Macmillan, 1970), chap. 1.
- Hilary Putnam, "Three Kinds of Scientific Realism." *Philosophical Quarterly* 32 (July 1982): 195-200.
- Cleo H. Cherryholmes, "Notes on Pragmatism and Scientific Realism." *Educational Researcher* 21 (August-September 1992): 13-17.
- Richard W. Miller, *Fact and Method: Explanation, Confirmation and Reality in the Natural and Social Sciences* (Princeton University Press, 1988).
- Paul K. MacDonald, "Useful Fiction or Miracle Maker? The Competing Epistemological Foundations of Rational Choice Theory." *American Political Science Review* 97 (2003): 551-565.
- Andrew Bennett, "The Mother of All 'isms': Causal Mechanisms and Structured Pluralism in International Relations Theory." *European Journal of International Relations* 19 (September 2013): 459-481.
- Alexander Wendt, *Social Theory of International Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 1999), chap. 2.
- Fred Chernoff, "Scientific Realism as a Meta-Theory of International Relations." *International Studies Quarterly* 46 (June 2002): 189-207.
- Fred Chernoff, *The Power of International Theory: Reforging the Link to Foreign Policy-making through Scientific Inquiry* (Routledge, 2008).
- Heikki Patomäki and Colin Wight, "After Postpositivism? The Promises of Critical Realism." *International Studies Quarterly* 44 (June 2000): 213-237.

Required

- Thomas Osborne and Nikolas Rose, "Do the Social Sciences Create Phenomena? The Example of Public Opinion Research." *British Journal of Sociology* 50 (September 1999): 367-396.
- Nancy C. M. Hartsock, "The Feminist Standpoint: Developing the Ground for a Specifically Feminist Historical Materialism." In *Discovering Reality: Feminist Perspectives on Epistemology, Metaphysics, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science*, 2nd ed., ed. Sandra G. Harding and Merrill B. Hintikka (Kluwer, 2003). ([D2L](#))
- Chris Brown, "'Turtles All the Way Down: Anti-foundationalism, Critical Theory, and International Relations.'" *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 23 (1994): 213-236.
- Mark Bevir, "Political Science After Foucault." *History of the Human Sciences* 24 (2011): 81-96.
- [slides](#)

Supplemental

- Jürgen Habermas, *Knowledge and Human Interests*, trans. Jeremy J. Shapiro (Beacon Press, 1971).
- Paul Feyerabend, *Against Method: Outline of an Anarchist Theory of Knowledge* (Verso, 1978).
- Michel Foucault, *The History of Sexuality*, Volume 1: An Introduction, trans. Robert Hurley (Pantheon, 1978). ([D2L](#))
- Richard Rorty, *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature* (Princeton University Press, 1979).
- Lisa Martín Alcoff, "Foucault's Philosophy of Science: Structures of Truth/Structures of Power." In *Continental Philosophy of Science*, ed. Gary Gutting (Blackwell, 2005).
- Jean-François Lyotard, *The Postmodern Condition: A Report on Knowledge*, trans. Geoff Bennington and Brian Massumi (University of Minnesota, 1984).
- Jacques Derrida, *Of Grammatology*, trans. Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1976).
- Ben Agger, "Critical Theory, Poststructuralism, Postmodernism: Their Sociological Relevance." *Annual Review of Sociology* 17 (1991): 105-131.
- Judith Butler, *Excitable Speech: A Politics of the Performative* (Routledge, 1997).
- Sandra G. Harding, *The Science Question in Feminism* (Cornell University Press, 1986).
- Richard K. Ashley, "The Poverty of Neorealism." *International Organization* 38 (Spring 1984): 225-286.
- David Patrick Houghton, "Positivism 'vs' Postmodernism: Does Epistemology Make a Difference?" *International Politics* (2008): 115-128.
- Michael Brint, William G. Weaver, and Meredith Garmon, "What Difference Does Anti-Foundationalism Make to Political Theory?" *New Literary History* 26 (Spring 1995): 225-237.
- Nuno P. Monteiro and Keven G. Ruby, "IR and the False Promise of Philosophical Foundations." *International Theory* 1 (2009): 15-48.

6 Dec, 5:30 pm

In-class Final Exam**Take-home Final Exam due**

This syllabus is available online at web.pdx.edu/~kinsella/ps493f17.pdf and course materials can be linked from this address. Last updated: 29 November 2017.