

CODE: THO 4105	TITLE: Social and Political Ethics
CREDITS: 3 cr.	
SESSION: Fall 2012	PROFESSOR: Kenneth Melchin

DESCRIPTION	The course begins by examining the relationship between ethics and social science. It proceeds to a discussion of ethical and theological issues that are central to political science. Finally students read a selected text from theological ethics to understand how spirituality can shape social and political practice.
OBJECTIVES	The course aims to help students: to develop skills for critically reading contemporary literature in social ethics and political theology; to better understand how theology and the social sciences can enrich our understanding of social and political "praxis" issues; to identify foundational insights for social ethics and political theology; to help understand the relationship between Christian faith and social and political living.
WORKLOAD	Required readings Participation in class discussions Two papers on the required readings and class discussions Paper #1 due mid-Oct. Paper #2 due mid-Nov. Final exam, take-home
EVALUATION	Paper #1 25% Paper #2 35% Final exam 40%
REQUIRED TEXTS	Jane JACOBS, <i>The Death and Life of Great American Cities</i> (New York: Random House/Vintage Books, 1961). Eric VOEGELIN, <i>The New Science of Politics</i> (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1952). One other text, TBA.
RECOMMENDED TEXTS	