

Antalya Bilim University
Department of Political Science and International Relations
POLS 723 Republicanism: Past and Present
Spring 2025

Instructor: Dr. Ali Açıkgöz

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Thursday: 10.00-12.50, Markantalya 1116

Office Hours: Online by appointment

Definition of Class and Its aim:

This class focuses on the birth and development of the idea of republic and republicanism in the world and in Türkiye. Republic and republicanism are among important topics of political science as it has important implications for discussions of democracy and civic virtues. Such discussions also reflect upon other topics such as class, gender and citizenship. Scope of the discussions are also global as different republican traditions flourished at different points of history among different groups of people. The aim of this class is to inform and comparatively analyze such traditions as well as sources of republicanism. During this class the students shall acquire skills to engage with secondary resources in a systematical fashion.

Class Requirements:

Attendance and participation: Students are required to attend and participate in classes 10%).

Presentations: Students are required to present their research topic in a short and concise manner (20%).

Response papers: 400-500 word response papers (20%).

Final paper: Students will provide a final paper regarding the republican traditions they picked. The paper is going to be 1500-2000 words long (50%).

Academic Honesty and Rules:

Plagiarism is prohibited within the boundaries of the course. “Plagiarism”, defined by the University as the act of presenting the work of others as one's own work, is unacceptable under any circumstances. It is very important that the source you cite in the course is always clearly presented to the reader.

This does not only apply to direct quotations from a book or article; it applies to any point taken directly from something you have read. It is not acceptable to paraphrase the work of others and present it as your own without attribution. Instead, attribution must be given:

- (i) Make sure that direct quotations are always enclosed in quotation marks so that it is clear that you are not claiming to have written the statements yourself.
- (ii) Always give the source of ideas and facts, including the exact page reference;

If you cheat or plagiarize, you will receive a grade of F (0.0) for the course and will be reported to the Discipline Committee for academic dishonesty.

Course Plan:

Week 1:

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Week 2:

Introduction: What is a republic and what is republicanism?

Week 3:

RESPONSE PAPER DUE!

Weinstock and Nadeau, "Citizenship and the Roman Res publica: Cicero and a Christian Corollary".

Vujadinovic, "Machiavelli's republican political theory"

Week 4:

Laborde and Maynor, "The Republican Contribution to Contemporary Political Theory"

Week 5:

RESPONSE PAPER DUE!

Spitz, "The Twilight of the Republic?"

Week 6:

Pettit, "Republican Freedom: Three Axioms, Four Theorems"

Week 7:

RESPONSE PAPER DUE!

Skinner, "Freedom as the Absence of Arbitrary Power"

Week 8:

Exam week! No Class!

Week 9:

RESPONSE PAPER DUE!

Bellamy, "Republicanism, Democracy, and Constitutionalism"

Week 10:

Fiedman, "Pettit's Civic Republicanism and Male Domination"

Week 11:

Miller, "Republicanism, National Identity, and Europe"

Week 12:

TBA
PRESENTATIONS DUE!

Week 13:

TBA

Week 14:

Final Papers Due!