SELECTED TOPICS IN POLITICAL THEORY II:
SEX, LOVE, AND POLITICS FROM CLASSICAL GREECE TO
CONTEMPORARY TIMES

Course Outline
This outline is also available at http://www.sfu.ca/politics

Prerequisite: Eight upper division units in political science or permission of the department.

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Description:
The course explores important aspects of the conceptual and practical relationship between what
has become known as the private/public divide. Specifically, students in this course will
examine this relationship in terms of sex, sexuality, and love and their political dimensions (for
example, their role in defining and demarcating citizenship, their regulation for productive and
reproductive purposes, and their exclusionary, exploitative, and violent manipulations). Students
will read a wide selection of academic materials on, for example, *eros* and *philia*, the repressive
hypothesis, compulsory heterosexuality, and power and patriarchy, and focus on contemporary
political/policy debates, such as same sex marriages, sex identity, polygamy, pornography,
prostitution, and violence.

Course Organization: There will be a four hour seminar each week.

Required Texts:
C.D.C. Reeve, ed., *Plato on Love: Lysis, Symposium, Phaedrus, Alcibiades with Selections from
Republic and Laws* (Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 2006). Other editions of the
Symposium and Phaedrus, published by Hackett, are acceptable.
1990).
Christine Stark and Rebecca Whisnant, eds., *Not for Sale: Feminists Resisting Prostitution and
Krista Scott-Dixon, ed., *Trans/forming Feminisms: Trans-Feminist Voices Speak Out* (Toronto:
Sumach Press, 2006).
Selected readings available on reserve in the library.

Course Evaluation:
Attendance and Participation: 15% Presentation: 20%
Essay Outline and Bibliography: 15% Research Essay: 50%

The Department of Political Science strictly enforces a policy on plagiarism.
For details, see http://www.sfu.ca/politics/undergrad/ug_plag_pol.html, or pick up a paper copy outside AQ
6072.