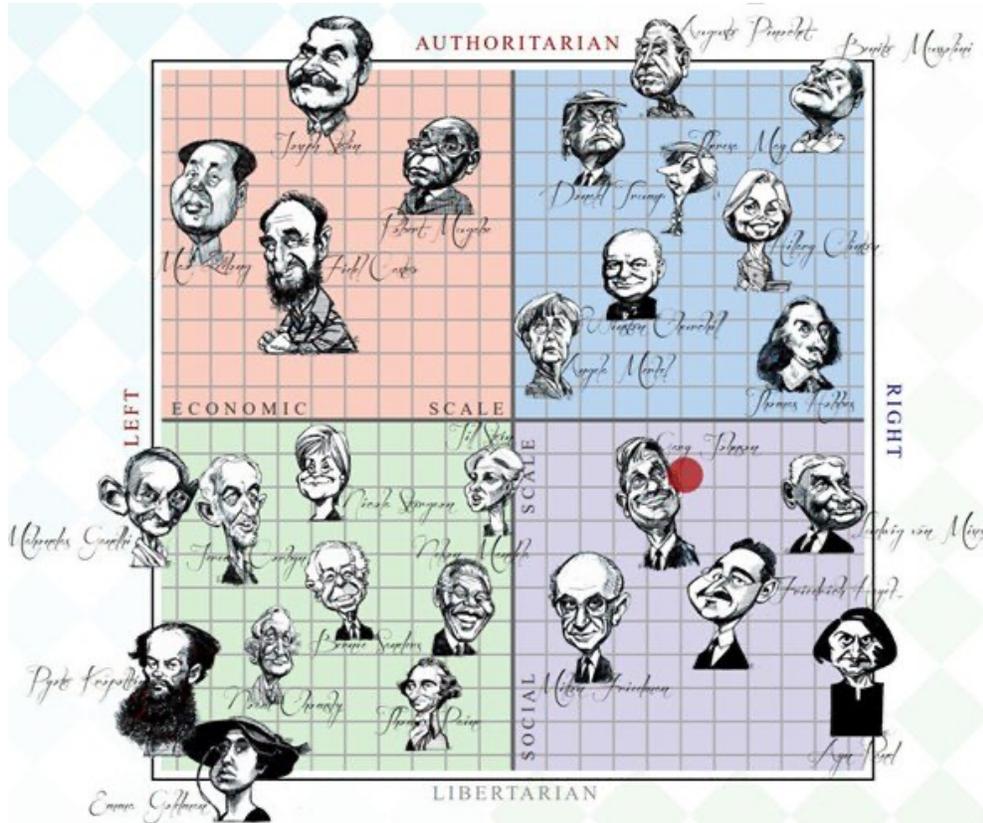


HUMN 300W

Conservatives and Liberals



Instructors:

Dr. Jason Clower

Office location:

I've forgotten. I dimly remember having an office in 2018, but the building was locked down for so long that I think it has been reclaimed by nature and has grizzlies hibernating in it.

E-mail:

Please use Blackboard messages. I check every weekday.

Office hours:

Mon. 3:00-4:30 and Fri. 1:15-3:30 on Zoom. To schedule, please use the "Tea Time" tab in Blackboard.

Course time & location

We are 100% online and "asynchronous!" So there's never a need for you to show up anywhere at a specific time.

Description

Through essays, literature, and art, we will study the conservative and classical liberal/libertarian traditions as intellectual and cultural movements and aesthetic and moral dispositions. Students will be equipped to understand their ideas and tastes in larger historical and psychological context, as well as those of differently-minded people.

Required Readings

Order these books immediately. And I've arranged the schedule so that you'll receive them in time if you order them used now.

- 1) *The Libertarian Mind*, by David Boaz. ISBN 1476752842. **PRO TIP: Search Amazon using the ISBN numbers provided below instead of the title. It is an easy way to ensure you that what you are buying is exactly the right thing.**
- 2) *Starship Troopers*, by Robert Heinlein. ISBN 0441783589. (Like audio books? **Try the Audible edition.** I've set up the course in such a way that you can use audio versions of the books while walking, running, or hiking.)
- 3) *The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress*, by Robert Heinlein. ISBN 0440001358. (Again, consider the Audible edition.)
- 4) *The Invisible Heart: An Economic Romance*, by Russell Roberts. ISBN 0262681358.

Administrative Stuff

Communication: Before messaging, please check to make sure that your question is not already addressed in the syllabus or on Blackboard. Snoot and I have hundreds of students, and we die a little every time someone writes to ask something that's printed plainly on the syllabus, such as when our office hours are or what the next day's reading is.

Also, when emailing, practice professionalism by including an address (traditionally "Dear Mr. Clower" or "Dear Snoot") and avoiding textspeak (e.g. *'i wuz gonna come buy yr office hrs n i need 2 know when they r*). And again, because the university is so crowded now, we request that you **ONLY** message us **AFTER** you have (1) checked the syllabus and (2) contacted at least two of your peers regarding your questions/assignments.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Quizzes

- You may use your books or notes, but no other resources (such as asking people).
- If you flub a quiz, **I welcome you to take it again**. Blackboard will let you repeat it until you are satisfied.

Course Requirements

Reading & “Attendance” 30%

I gauge this simply by checking Blackboard to make sure you’re active on the platform and haven’t fallen into a crevasse in the earth’s surface.

Writing activities 20

Quizzes 20%

Two papers 15% each

Course Schedule

The Buddha says, “Conditioned things are fleeting, ever-changing, evanescent, ephemeral! They are like a bubble, a flash of lightning, a wisp of smoke!” What the Buddha is trying to say is that like life itself, schedules change. But here is a 20,000-foot overview of the work you’ll do this semester. **For the actual materials and details, open the weekly folders in Blackboard. This is just a rough sketch.**

Folder 1	Jan. 24-30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Take “The Political Compass Test” and three other similar surveys to help you understand where you stand on the political spectrum• Take the “Moral Foundations Questionnaire” (which is a BLAST for self-understanding!) and then...• Watch a lecture on what it means (video, 58 minutes)
Folder 2	Jan. 31-Feb. 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Watch episodes 2 and 3 of <i>Wild, Wild Country</i> (2018)• Read/listen to Chap. 1 of <i>The Road to Somewhere</i> (PDF or mp3)• Short writing activity

Folder 3	Feb. 7-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read first half of <i>The Invisible Heart: An Economic Romance</i> • “The Invisible Hand” (video, 14 mins) • Short writing activity
Folder 4	Sept. 14-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish <i>The Invisible Heart: An Economic Romance</i> • Quiz on <i>The Invisible Heart</i> • Unintended Consequences (audio, 55 minutes) • Short writing activity
Folder 5	Feb. 21-27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several mini-lectures totaling about 20 minutes • Read “Ten Conservative Principles” (PDF) • Short writing activity <p>This is a nice, light week. Consider working ahead.</p>
Folder 6	Feb. 28-Mar. 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read “Is Democracy Overrated” (PDF) • Short writing activity <p>Another light week. Consider working ahead.</p>
Folder 7	Mar. 7-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Introduction to Communism” (lecture, 55 minutes) • Read/listen to <i>Anthem</i> (PDF or audio, 90 minutes) • OPTIONAL: “The Fall of the Soviet Union Explained” (42 minutes) • Short writing activity
Folder 8	Mar. 14-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read/listen to first half of <i>Starship Troopers</i> • Quiz • Short writing activity
Folder 9	Mar. 28-Apr. 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish <i>Starship Troopers</i> • Quiz • Short writing activity
Folder 10	Apr. 4-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch “The Politics of Starship Troopers” (video, 80 mins) • Prepare for paper next week • OPTIONAL: Tutorial with JTC
Folder 11	Apr. 11-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>The Libertarian Mind</i>, Chaps. 3, 5, and 6 • Turn in paper

Folder 12	Apr. 18-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>The Libertarian Mind</i>, Chaps. 7-9 • Quiz
Folder 13	Apr. 25-May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to “Tough Questions for Conservatives” (audio, 30 minutes) • Start reading/listening to <i>The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress</i> • Quiz • OPTIONAL: “Michael Malice on What Left and Right Mean” (audio, 55 mins)
Folder 14	May 2-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to “Tough Questions for Liberals” (audio, 30 minutes) • Continue <i>The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress</i> • Quiz on <i>The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress</i>
Folder 15	May 9-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish <i>The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress</i> • Quiz on <i>The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress</i> • Listen to “Free Private Cities” (audio, 30 minutes) • OPTIONAL: More expansive presentation on free private cities (audio, 80 minutes)
Folder 16	Tue., May 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn in sea-steading project

Miscellaneous

Using Blackboard Learn

Copies of the course syllabus and a full schedule of major assignments (readings, discussion points, quizzes, exams, final, paper assignments, recommended lectures and films) may be found in Blackboard Learn (BbL). You are responsible for regularly checking the online resources, which are accessed through the portal at <http://portal.csuchico.edu>. Course announcements will be sent on Blackboard email or appear as Blackboard announcements. Check this resource daily.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)

Please notify me of any special need relating to your disability within the first two weeks of the semester. I will make every reasonable effort to facilitate your success in this course. Please note that you may be required to show documentation for your disability. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, call me, or email me. Please also contact the Accessibility Resource Center (ARC) as this is the designated department responsible for approving and coordinating reasonable accommodations and services for students with disabilities. ARC will help you understand your rights and responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act and provide you further assistance with

requesting and arranging accommodations. The Accessibility Resource Center is in Student Services Center 170, or you can get in touch with them at 530-898-5959 or visit their website at www.csuchico.edu/arc.

Academic Integrity:

Students are expected to be familiar with the University's Academic Integrity Policy. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at California State University, Chico, and the University's Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the Office of Student Conduct, Rights, and Responsibilities. The policy on academic integrity and other resources related to student conduct can be found at: <https://www.csuchico.edu/scrr/integrity.shtml>.

If there is evidence that you have been involved in any form of academic dishonesty, you will receive an "F" grade for the course. Be careful in all of work (classroom presentations as well as written assignments) to properly cite your sources (including online materials). Please view the [CSU Chico Library's Guide on Citing Sources](#) for help with correctly citing your work and avoiding plagiarism.

Other University Policies and Campus Resources

Dropping and Adding

You are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. found <http://www.csuchico.edu/catalog/>. You should be aware of the new deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes. Consult the CSU Chico website.

Student Computing

Computer labs for student use are available <https://www.csuchico.edu/itss/labs/index.shtml> located in the Meriam Library Rm 116 and Rm 450.

Student Services

Student services are designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. Students can find support for services such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. Student services information can be found at: <http://www.csuchico.edu/current-students/>.

Student Learning Center

The mission of the Student Learning Center (SLC) is to provide services that will assist CSU, Chico students to become independent learners. The SLC prepares and supports students in their college course work by offering a variety of programs and resources to meet student needs. The SLC facilitates the academic transition and retention of students from high schools and community colleges by providing study strategy information, content subject tutoring, and supplemental instruction. The SLC is online at <http://www.csuchico.edu/slc/>. For some very informative videos (on topics such as: organizing and outlining your essay, writing made easy, mastering study skills, time management, efficient reading strategies, preventing test anxiety, avoiding procrastination, public speaking), see <http://rce.csuchico.edu/online/workshops/student-learning>.

The Writing Center

You may make an appointment with a writing tutor at the Student Learning Center online through the Writing Center <https://www.csuchico.edu/slc/writing-center/index.shtml> (Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 am-6:00 pm, Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm). The Writing Center offers online services for all students; submit your paper at least 3 days in advance.

Title IX:

State law makes university professors mandated reporters. That means I am required to report to the Title IX Coordinator whenever I learn about incidents of sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking that affect any member of the campus community. This includes disclosures that occur during our class discussions or in private. Students may make a **confidential** report to the Counseling and Wellness Center or Safe Place. Information on campus reporting obligations and other Title IX related resources are available here: www.csuchico.edu/title-ix.