

Instructions (please read): Make sure you read the essay checklist located at the bottom of this document before you start. Respond to ONE of the following two prompts in 1250-1500 words (approx. 5-6 pages) with a word count immediately following your name. All citations must have the last name of the author and page number included after the quote or summation. There is no need to include a Works Cited or Bibliography page. My lectures are never an acceptable source, ALWAYS refer to the text. Outside sources are not permitted. Double spaced, 12-point font, 1.25" margins. DO NOT include the essay prompt in your own work.

Q1) What is the place of violence and force in both maintaining state power and overthrowing it? Is the state's legitimacy derived from anything other than its use, or at least threat, of force? If so, can political power be obtain by any means other than violence? What are the ways state and revolutionary force manifests itself in the day to day lives of citizens or others under control of such a state? By what means are certain people given the authority to legitimately use state force and what type of character is required for such political power?

Q2) What are some of the major critiques to liberal democracy and majority rule put forth by thinkers such as Marx, Goldman, Gentile/Mussolini, and/or Fanon? How is political power tied to dominant factions such as a certain economic class, nationality, or ethnic identity? Can power be separated by these dominant groups from within the system, or does a real transition of power require a restructuring of the political system, and in what manner? How would supporters of such a system, such as Locke, respond to these criticisms and how would they justify the liberal democratic political structure?

Q3) What is the role of the nation in terms of political behavior for Marx, Gentile/Mussolini, and/or Fanon? What is the role of the state in fostering national identity? What does it mean to be a member of a nation, what is its basis, what responsibilities does it entail, and how does a nation go about instilling national identity in its citizens? How does it interact with other identities, such as economic class? What objections are put forth against maintaining the idea of nations and how might supporters of nationalism refute them? (You may wish to consider earlier authors, such as Machiavelli and Rousseau, on this as well.)

Paper Checklist: Include as last page of essay, do NOT check "yes" to things you didn't do.

Double spaced, pages numbered, 1200-1500 words.

At least THREE citations (with page number) per page on average, in-line, with author and page number, e.g. (Smith 215) or (Hayek 121), not (pg. 3) or (Manifesto, pg. 313). Quotes included due to importance of specific language as evidence to support your argument.

Argument based directly on assigned material

Introduction based on clear thesis statement making specific argument **ABOUT the text, not just a book report repeating what the author says. Contains no extraneous information, e.g. “Marx was a 19th century German Jewish philosopher whose works have been influential on the modern world”, etc. but gets directly to what you are trying to prove and how.**

Main body of paper stays on topic with a clear structure, each paragraph building on one before with logical transitions. Every sentence is justified as providing evidence of your thesis, containing analysis, critique, exposition, etc. Free of personal opinion, unrelated material/anecdotes, sentence fragments, incoherent phrasing, other grammatical issues. All text original, not lifted from Wikipedia, web sites, book introductions, etc.

Well-defined conclusion, showing how material you presented proved the introductory thesis, not end abruptly, present personal opinions, or talk about broad and unrelated ideas.