POLITICAL SCIENCE 220: CLASSICAL QUEST FOR JUSTICE

I. Readings

Plato and Aristophanes, *Four Texts on Socrates*
Plato, *Republic* (Bloom translation)
Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* (Sachs translation)
Aristotle, *Politics* (Simpson translation)

II. Requirements and Grades

This is primarily a lecture course, but you are expected to attend each class prepared to answer questions about the assigned reading. Lateness and unexcused absences will bring a reduction in your grade.

Your grade will be calculated as follows:

   Midterm (after the classes on Aristotle's *Ethics*): 25%
   Paper (1800-2500 words, due Dec. 16 by 5 pm): 30%
   Final Exam: 45%

When writing your paper, be sure to pay attention to the *Student Handbook*'s policy on academic honesty. Please do not hesitate to discuss your paper with me while working on it: I will be happy to give you whatever advice I can. I will say much more about paper-writing when I hand out the topics.

III. Disabilities

If you have a disability that will affect your participation in class, please let me know and also contact Erin Salva, Coordinator of Disability Services, at ext. 5453.
IV. Course Outline

(1) Intro and Plato, *Apology of Socrates* (appx. 2-1/2 weeks). Lectures will cover the work section by section. In each class I will give the reading assignment for the next meeting. You should read Aristophanes' *The Clouds* on your own; it will be referred to in class.

(2) Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, books 1-4 (appx. 2 weeks). Lectures will focus on the meaning of moral virtue, the relation between moral virtue and happiness, and the discussions of courage and greatness of soul. In each class I will give the reading assignment for the next meeting.

(3) Plato, *Republic* (appx. 6 weeks). To the extent that time allows, lectures will cover the first 7 books section by section. In each class I will give the reading assignment for the next meeting.

(4) Aristotle, *Politics*, books 3, 7, and 8 (=books 3, 4, and 5 in Simpson's peculiar numbering scheme) (appx. 2-1/2 weeks). Lectures will focus on Aristotle's treatment of (1) political justice and the best regime, and (2) the limits of moral virtue and the political role of liberal education. In each class I will give the reading assignment for the next meeting.