**Political science – 1st class October 13 2017**

1. **Completing lecture 1**
* Political science as a scholarly discipline – a matter of contention among scholars
* Various traditions in relation to the study of politics
1. Philosophical tradition
2. Empirical tradition
3. Scientific tradition
4. Recent developments
5. Graph 2 Prisoners’ choice
6. **Discussing final questions to lecture 1**
7. **If politics is essentially social, why is not social activity political?**
8. **Why has politics so often carried negative associations?**
9. **How would you defend politics as a worthwhile and ennobling activity?**
10. **Is politics inevitable? Could politics ever be brought to an end?**
11. **How to study politics?**
12. Distinguishing between facts and values – the main role of politics as an academic discipline
* Concepts (general ideas of objects and creatures)
* Models (interpretations of facts) – graph 1 The political system
* Macrotheories (explanation of a body of empirical data)
* ideological traditions/paradigms (basis for models and theories)
* Graph 3 Levels of conceptual analysis
1. **Why has the idea of a science of politics been so attractive?**
2. **Is it possible to study politics objectively?**

**4Textual analyses**

1. **Aristotle’s Politics**
2. **How is society organized?**
3. **What is the state’s structure?**
4. **Man is a political animal – what does this mean? How is it explain by the author?**
5. **Machiavelli’s Prince**
6. **Why should Prince be considered kind?**
7. **What are the boundaries of his kindness?**
8. **Can Prince rely on those who love him?**
9. **How should he behave toward his subjects?**
10. **How should he behave as a military commander?**
11. **The final conclusion of the chapter?**

**Basic notions to lecture 1**

1. Politics
2. Polis
3. Polity
4. Conflict
5. Cooperation
6. Governance
7. Power
8. Civil society
9. Consensus
10. Normative
11. Objective
12. Anti-politics
13. Behaviouralism
14. Empirical
15. Science
16. Institution
17. Discourse
18. Determinism
19. Bias
20. Ideal type
21. Model
22. Theory
23. Paradigm
24. Authority