

Religion and Politics (Religious Studies 3CC3 / Political Science 3LA3) – Winter 2014

TEXT PREPARATION 2

Assignment due in class on February 27* from some students.

**As noted on the course syllabus: Text Preparation assignments are designed to help you prepare the reading assignment for a particular class, in conjunction with your participation in that class. Thus, these assignments may only be submitted in class on the days they are due. If you have to miss that day's class, please contact the instructor to make alternate arrangements.*

This assignment is based on:

- Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *On the Social Contract*, book 4, chap. 8: "On Civil Religion" [selection in coursepack / book on reserve]

In well-written paragraphs, a total of 600-650 words,** please address the following two questions with detailed reference to the text:

1. pp. 220-22:

What stages of development of the relationship between religion and state does Rousseau identify? (Here it may be useful to recall our earlier class discussions of the concept of "theocracy" and to consider the question: What relation do the various stages have to theocracy?)

2. pp. 223-25:

What three kinds of religion does Rousseau identify, and what does he see as the advantages and disadvantages of each?

Your answer may also include 1-2 questions raised in the reading for further discussion.

As was the case for previous assignments, all your observations in the Text Preparation assignment should be backed up with references that allow your reader to see what they are based on in the text. For this purpose, please use in-text parenthetical page references—for an example of these, see Harvey, *Writing with Sources*, p. 51, under "MLA Basic Rules."

Note: Since this is your first reading of this text, and since we have not yet discussed it in class, the Text Preparation assignment is simply a first effort at figuring out what it says, and doing it will help you get the most of our in-class work on the reading. Your fuller understanding will develop in the course of our class meetings, and with successive re-readings.

Please print your assignment double-spaced and with one-inch margins, using an 11- or 12-point font. Please number and staple the pages you hand in.

**Please indicate the total word count at the end of your assignment.

Please keep a copy of your summary to refer to in our discussions in class and tutorial.

posted/distributed February 14, 2014

socserv.socsci.mcmaster.ca/danahol/3cc3/textprep2.pdf