

Politics and Christian Civilization

Class Three: The Scientific Method in Political Science

Review 3 ways know anything with certainty Religion, Philosophy, Science. Different methods, different aims, different principles.

Concluded that Political Science must partake of 1, 2, or all of these. In this session looking at scientific method used in Political Science. Science is not *doxa*, *it is* a type of knowledge

THE ANCIENT GREEKS DIVIDED KNOWLEDGE INTO SEVERAL TYPES:

- **SOPHIA** = WISDOM
- **PHRONESIS** = PRUDENCE OR PRACTICAL WISDOM
- **EPISTEME** /SCIENTIA = DEMONSTRATED KNOWLEDGE
- DOXA=OPINION WHICH IS NOT KNOWLEDGE AT ALL

AQUINAS LATER FOLLOWS SIMILAR CLASSIFICATION WHEN DISCUSSING THE KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST: WISDOM UNDERSTANDING, KNOWLEDGE, AND COUNSEL

It is written 'The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of **wisdom and understanding**, the Spirit of **counsel** . . . the Spirit of **knowledge** . . . ' ; cf. Eccus. 15:5]," under which are included all that may be known; for the knowledge of all Divine things belongs to **wisdom**, the knowledge of all immaterial things to **understanding**, the knowledge of all conclusions to **knowledge** [scientia], the knowledge of all practical things to **counsel**. Hence it would seem that by this knowledge Christ had the knowledge of all things. Third Part, Q 11; A1



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ARISTOTLE

1. **SOPHIA = WISDOM** A COMBINATION OF NOUS AND EPISTEME TO KNOW AND UNDERSTAND HIGHER THINGS
2. **EPISTEME = DEMONSTRATED OR LOGICALLY DEDUCED KNOWLEDGE, ALSO CALLED "SCIENTIA"**
3. **PHRONESIS = PRUDENCE; PRACTICAL WISDOM**
4. **DOXA = OPINION WHICH IS NOT KNOWLEDGE AT ALL**

NOUS: THE INTELLECT ITSELF OR THE HUMAN POWER TO REASON ARISTOTLE OR GRASP FIRST PRINCIPLES AND REASON FROM THEM CALLED

DISTINGUISH BETWEEN INTELLECT AND ITS POWERS OR OPERATIONS

AQUINAS

1. **WISDOM & UNDERSTANDING (LATIN SAPIENTIA)** A COMBINATION OF INTUITION AND KNOWLEDGE TO KNOW DIVINE AND IMMATERIAL THINGS
2. **KNOWLEDGE: SAME AS EPISTEME**
3. **COUNSEL; SAME AS PHRONESIS**
4. **NOTHING ELSE = OPINION**

INTELLECT = THE INTELLECT ITSELF OR THE HUMAN POWER TO REASON AQUINAS CALLED INTELLECT . THE POWER TO GRASP FIRST PRINCIPLES HE CALLED INTUITION



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THE HUMANITIES	MATH/SCIENCE	SOCIAL SCIENCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literature <u>Philosophy</u> Language History 	<p>Natural Science: (Study of Physical Non-Human Nature)</p> <p>Physical Science: (Non-Living Nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy, Oceanography Geology etc. <p>Biological Science: (Study of Living Non Human Nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology Zoology Botany, Entomology etc. <p>Mathematics</p>	<p>(Study of Human Nature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Psychology</u> <u>Political Science</u> Economics Sociology
<u>PHILOSOPHY</u>		
<p>Logic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major Minor 	<p>Metaphysics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ontology <u>Psychology</u> Cosmology Theology 	<p>Moral</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethics <u>Politics</u>



Theology?

Not a Revealed, Divine Science until end of Ancient World and birth of Christendom. How about today?

Not only have we removed psychology and politics from philosophy we have not included theology as a Divine Science but only as a logical/philosophical one.



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“The most authoritative text of the Christian Church, the New Testament, provides no code of conduct for the faithful in their day-to-day lives beyond the Ten Commandments and love of neighbor. Moreover, the New Testament provides no systematic guidelines for the organization of human society. How are human beings to act in this or that situation? What is just in this or that situation? How should Christians form their conscience? What are the purposes of human society? How should human society be organized? What is the role of law in human society? To help answer these questions, the Christian Church of necessity turned to philosophers, to those who systematically reason about morals, politics, and law.”

Politics deals with the temporal or physical aspects of man but like the body is necessarily related to the higher and should lead to it. As



Rev. James Schall S. J.
Catholic Political Scientist

The Catholic University of America



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1867 MOST AUTHORITATIVE GUIDE IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE **OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY** 1ST USED “SCIENCE” IN ITS MODERN CONNOTATION EXCLUDING LOGICAL DEMONSTRATION.

“POLITICAL SCIENCE” NOT “POLITICS” COINCIDED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF EMPIRICAL SCIENCE.

1ST CHAIR OF PS ESTABLISHED IN 1857 AT COLUMBIA UNIV. BY 1880, PS ESTABLISHED THERE AS A SEPARATE DISCIPLINE.

MODERN POL SCIENCE = FOCUS ON
EMPIRICAL VERIFICATION = LIMITED TO ONE
TYPE OF DEMONSTRATION BUT IT IS NOT DOXA,
BUT ALSO NOT SAPIENTIA, NOT PHRONESIS, BUT
A LIMITED SUBSET OF EPISTEME OR DEMONSTRATED
KNOWLEDGE. WHY?



Columbia University
New York City (1754)
Founded As: “King’s College”

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STUDENTS OF MODERN SOCIAL SCIENCE HAVE TWO DICTA DRILLED INTO THEIR HEADS

1. ONLY **QUANTIFIABLE** AND VERIFIABLE KNOWLEDGE HAVE VALIDITY
2. YOU MUST REMAIN **VALUE NEUTRAL** (KEEP SUBJECTIVE VIEWS OUT OF RESEARCH) CANNOT MAKE JUDGMENTS AS TO QUESTIONS OF RIGHT AND WRONG OR GOOD AND BAD. IT WILL RUIN YOUR OBJECTIVITY AND THUS ABILITY TO KNOW WHAT YOU ARE OBSERVING

Sensation versus Perception

A RESEARCHER SHOULD NOT JUDGE, BUT ONLY DESCRIBE = IF JUDGE OR GET EMOTIONALLY INVOLVED IT WILL EFFECT OBJECTIVITY OF REPORTING. LIKE A NATURAL SCIENTIST OBSERVE AND REPORT WHAT YOU SEE.

JUDGMENTS GET IN WAY OF RESEARCH



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Empirical Science in A Social/Behavioral Science Lab

Base Line
Control Group
Experimental Group
Intervening Variables

Experimental Science is probable

Tests of Probability:

Beyond a Reasonable Doubt
By a Preponderance of the Evidence

