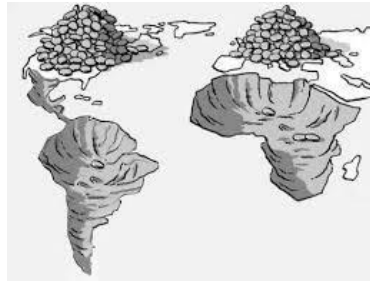


POL 100 – Introduction to Political Science
Spring Semester 2019
Classroom LAC 3 – Tuesday/Friday 11:30 – 12:45



I. Course Information

Instructor: Professor Armando Zanicchia, Ph.D.
E-mail: azanicchia@fus.edu
Office hours: Tuesday/Friday 13:00 – 14:30 and by appointment (Wednesday late morning is best)
Office: LAC Faculty Office 16
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II. Course description:

Basic concepts of the discipline are discussed in this class with a focus on the evolution of the State and the role of the individual from historical, ideological, and comparative perspectives. Key topics include political culture and socialization, geopolitics, political behavior, theories of leadership and the politics of development.

III. Rationale: This course fulfils a requirement in the International Relations major, Political Science Combined Major and Minor. It may also be used as a general elective requirement.

IV. The goals of this course include the following:

- to develop critical thinking and analytical skills;
- to practice synthesizing information from classroom discussions and reading;
- to present this information in a variety of formats, including class discussion, oral presentation, and short essays and exams;
- to demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively and use information technology effectively in group work and as an individual;
- to enhance writing competency;
- to develop an enhanced awareness of the historical foundations of modern political science.

V. Student Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this class, students should:

- be acquainted with some of the classic literature in political science;
- be able to compare these readings with contemporary literature in the field;
- read and write about these readings critically and analytically;
- be able to articulate a formal individual position on the issues related to the field of political science;
- be able to appreciate political power as a dimension of human behavior;
- gain an insight into the basic methodologies employed in the discipline by past and present writers in the field, to include political theory and methodology, comparative politics, political economy, international relations, law and administration, and communications.

VI. Texts (all posted on Moodle):

Marcus Ethridge and Howard Handelman, *Politics in a Changing World*, 6th edition (Wadsworth), 2013.

James MacGregor Burns, *Transforming Leadership*, Grove Press, 2003. You can also find selections on the Moodle site.

Posted extra readings on the course Moodle site (see syllabus).

VII. Assessment Overview.

Class Requirements:

- 1. Participation and attendance (10%).** The class is comprised of a combination of lectures, case discussions, exercises, and videos. You are expected to participate in class discussions and all exercises as they are the central component of the course. Your participation is evaluated on discussion and contributions to the class discussion. You are expected to read the assignments before each class session and it is fair game for me to ask you personally about them during class. Evaluations of this part of your participation will be based on your ability to contribute comments that are insightful, relevant, and progressive (move the discussion along). Please pay careful attention to all extra readings as posted, exercises and videos as these aspects of the course will find their way onto the midterm and final exams.
- 2. Periodic Quizzes (10%).** Three short quizzes will be given as noted in the course syllabus.
- 3. Exams (50%).** There will be a midterm (25%) and a final exam (25%). The tests will be objective (multiple choice, etc.) and short answer/essay in format. Information from the readings, lectures, and class discussions will be covered on the exams. No make-up of exams will be given except when two conditions are both met: 1) the student makes every effort to notify the instructor in advance of the exam to be missed by phone, email, or with a message to reception; and 2) a condition of illness or serious family emergency is explained in writing. Please note: Midterm and Final Exams cannot be taken early.
- 4. Team Project (10%).** The purpose of this project is to give you the opportunity to apply course materials to an actual comparative politics current event. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to experience the processes and problems involved in working with other group members to reach a specific objective. You will work on the project with 3-4 other classmates. The goal of the team project is to increase your understanding of political science.
- 5. Essays (20%).** Students will be required to write *two research-based essays*. Student essays (2000 words exclusive of question prompt and bibliography) will serve as a basis for and reinforcement of class discussions. Each essay should include a general review of what you have read as well as a *critical reflection* on the readings. These are due as noted in the class syllabus. Please use the MLA, APA or Chicago Handbook as a reference guide for usage and format. **Format for written work:** Please use 1-inch margins, double space and 12 point Times New Roman or similar font. Please indicate your word count exclusive of the essay prompt and bibliography.

Late Paper Policy: All papers are due electronically to my email address no later than 11 PM on the due date. Late essays will receive a one letter grade penalty per day late. No exceptions. Please plan accordingly.

Review of Grading Criteria:

Participation and class assignments	10%
Team Presentation	10%
Quizzes	10%
Two Essays	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>25%</u>
Total	100%

VIII. Assessment Details.

Rubric Employed for Assessing Reflective Essays

- An essay that is a good summary of the reading, but where the author provides no real insights of his or her own, or which has grammatical or referencing errors, or which is shorter than specified is a: C- to C+.
- An essay that is well-written, well referenced, and moves beyond merely summarizing to providing insights is a B- to B+.
- An outstanding essay with innovative insights and criticism, which is very well written and referenced, is an A- to A.

Rubric Employed for Assessment of Student Team Presentations

During the semester, student teams will present on their topics. Assessment will be according to the following rubric:

- **Clarity:** The ability to synthesize and structure information on a given topic and to present it so that it is understood by others, and imparts new knowledge to the audience.
- **Delivery:** The ability to express yourself succinctly within a given time frame in a way that allows your audience to understand your topic, to grasp your central argument, and to distinguish between the material you are referencing and your original insights.
- **Appropriate materials:** Appropriate use of technology such as overhead projector, videos, power point presentation, and of other visual aids, such as hand-outs or use of the whiteboard.
- **Lasting impressions:** The ability to end the presentation with questions which will fuel class-room discussion

Evaluation of presentation

- A presentation that is a good summary of internet or other sources without offering new insights and appropriate visual help, such as power point, and where the student has read their presentation is a C- to a C+.
- A presentation which is well delivered and provides insights beyond the summary stage while using visual aids and minimal reference to notes is a B- to a B+.
- An outstanding presentation is one which imparts new original insight in a manner which makes it easy to assimilate by the audience by using interesting and crisp visual aids and by posing interesting questions at the end is an A- to an A.

IX. Grading Policies and Expectations.

Rubric Employed for Final Grade (in percentages)

A: 94 - 100 A-: 90 - 93
B+: 87 - 89 B: 84 - 86 B-: 80 - 83
C+: 77 - 79 C: 74 - 76 C-: 70 - 73
D+: 67 - 69 D: 64 - 66 D-: 60 - 63
F: below 60

X. How to do well in this course:

Attendance and Class Etiquette:

Attendance is essential to perform well in the course. Hence, students are responsible for any missed information. A maximum of 4 absences (including absences due to illness) will be tolerated before absences affect a student's final course grade. Extended absences will result in the student being dropped from the class roll.

Further, unacceptable class behavior - including excessive tardiness, chatting with classmates, cell phone texting, leaving while class is in session, and displaying obvious signs of inattentiveness - will result in a loss of points. If you have needs that require special accommodation, please let the instructor know. Again, the due dates for papers and oral reports are binding.

Laptop Policy and Moodle

Students who wish to use their laptops to take notes during class may do so with the prior consent of the instructor. Also, please be sure to check the course Moodle site for all assigned readings in addition to the text chapters.

XI. Academic Dishonesty:

Please refer to Franklin's Statement on Cheating and Plagiarism in the Academic Catalog (p. 199). See also https://www.fus.edu/images/pdf/FUS_ACADEMIC_CATALOG_2018_2020_web.pdf. To summarize, you are to do your own work. Behaviors such as copying the work of others, using third-party services, or any other circumvention of doing your own work are dishonest and not acceptable in this class or at Franklin. A student who is suspected of submitting a paper written by someone else must demonstrate their authorship by a suitable means of assessment (e.g., drafts, research notes, personal discussion). For papers and presentations, this includes proper use of references and citations. Copying text without the use of quotations or paraphrasing the ideas of others without proper citations are both examples of plagiarism and thus unacceptable. For testing situations, this includes the use of notes, cell phones, talking to others, or copying off of the exam of others. The first case of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic grade of a zero on the assignment and a report to the Dean. The second case will result in expulsion from the university.

XII. Resources Available.

Please freely utilize the resources of the Writing and Learning Center, Information Technology, and the Franklin's Library.

XIII. Course Schedule

	CLASS SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS	Chapters, pages, assignments
	Parts I and II: An introduction to the history and political thought of political science; political behavior	
January 22 Tuesday	Course outline and introduction to the field of political science. Class introductions. Begin Chapter 1. All chapter assignments from <i>Ethridge and Handelman</i> text unless otherwise noted.	Chapter 1

January 25 Friday	Chapter 1 – Politics, Government Functions, Differences, Human Rights	Chapter 1
January 29 Tuesday	Chapter 2 – Political Ideologies – Liberalism, Conservatism, Capitalism, Marxism	Chapter 2 See Zaneccchia, <i>Ideologies</i> , Moodle Site
February 1 Friday	Chapter 2 – Political Ideologies – Continued. Socialism, Feminism, Libertarianism, Environmentalism, Fascism, Islamic Fundamentalism.	Chapter 2
February 5 Tuesday	Chapter 3 – Political Culture and Socialization	Quiz 1 – Chapters 1 and 2.
February 8 Friday	Chapter 3 – Continue discussion of political socialization and political psychology	See James C. Davies article (posted) See Samuel Huntington’s selection from <i>The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order</i>
February 12 Tuesday	Chapter 4 - Public Opinion 21st Century Geopolitics	See electronic postings by Edward Said, Michael Klare, Francis Fukuyama and Michael Ignatieff
February 15 Friday	21st Century Geopolitics (continued) Chapter 6 – Interest Groups	<i>Finish all electronic geopolitics postings and discuss G. William Domhoff’s Policy Planning Model (posted)</i>
February 19 Tuesday	Interest Groups - Continued	Reading selection from Chomsky’s <i>Manufacturing Consent</i> (posted)
February 22 Friday	February Break – No Class	
February 26 Tuesday	Chapter 8 – Executive Institutions and Political Leadership Guest Lecture	Quiz 2
	Part 3 – Political Institutions	
March 1 Friday	No Class – Conference Attendance	
March 5 Tuesday	Chapter 8 – Executive Institutions and Political Leadership	Essay 1 Due See Moodle site for prompts Start James MacGregor Burns, Parts 1 and 2
March 8 Friday	Midterm Exam	Chapters 1-8 as assigned and all Moodle readings

ACADEMIC TRAVEL		
March 9 - 23		
March 26 Tuesday	Burns, <i>Transforming Leadership</i>	Burns, Part 5
March 29 Friday	Chapter 9 Judicial Institutions	
April 2 Tuesday	Chapter 11 – Great Britain and Brexit The Politics of Populism	See Moodle Readings
Part IV – Politics in Selected Nations		
April 5 Friday	Chapter 12 – Russia: From Authoritarianism to Democracy and Back	
April 9 Tuesday	Chapter 14 – The Politics of Developing Nations Part I Presentation and slide/video on Sub-Saharan Africa	Quiz 3 Chapters 9, 11 12 and Burns. See W.W. Rostow reading.
April 12 Friday	The Politics of Developing Nations – Part II	Moodle: See Dambisa Moyo's <i>Dead Aid</i> , William Easterly's <i>Double Standard of Accountability</i> , Paul Collier's <i>The Bottom Billion</i>
April 16 Tuesday	Chapter 13 – China: Searching for A New Vision	See also Deborah Brautigan, <i>The Dragon's Gift</i>
April 19 Friday	Chapter 17 – A Changing World Order: International Political Economy, Sustainability and Terrorism	See Moodle Postings: Robert Gilpin, O'Brien and Williams, Matthew Watson, Stephen Kinzer
April 23 Tuesday	No Class	
April 26 Friday	Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson, <i>Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty</i> Guest Lecture	Moodle, <i>Why Nations Fail</i> , Parts 1 & 2 Essay 2 Due
April 30 Tuesday	Complete and review course material	
May 3 Friday	Team Presentations on Comparative Politics Countries to be Determined	See rubric for presentations Last Day of Class
May 10 Friday	Final Examination – 1100 - 1300	

NOTES

