

SYLLABUS

Political Science 112

Section: 003 (12:30 pm-1:45 pm, T/Th, DH 2039)
Instructor: Tim Kalinowski
Office: PH 0416
Office Hours: 11:00-11:50am, MWF (some Ws excepted - inquire if necessary)
3:15pm-3:45pm, T/Th
or by appointment
Office Phone: 650-3865 or 650-3572
Email: tkalino@siue.edu (put POLS112 in your subject line)
Website: www.timski.com/~ps112
Text: Janda, Berry and Goodman: *The Challenge of Democracy*,
Twelfth Edition (Boston, MA: Wadsworth Cengage, 2014)

THE PURPOSES OF THIS COURSE ARE:

- 1) To introduce you to the major elements of the U.S. national-level political systems (i.e. its structure and dynamics), and to increase your understanding of them.
- 2) To make connections between current political events and developments with the essential attributes of the political systems.
- 3) To increase your interest in American politics.
- 4) Upon completion of this course students should have a thorough understanding of the United States government's constitutional powers and limitations; strengths and limitations of democracy; federalism; influences on political views including but not limited to parties, special interest groups, and media; and a basic understand of due process and equal protection.

READING ASSIGNMENTS:

The basic reading assignment for this course is the text, chapters 1-16 (*omitting chapters 9 & 13*). This material should be read as designated in the syllabus. You may find it necessary and/or useful to read the text through more than once. Please review the syllabus regularly as some weeks will cover multiple chapters. Readings should be completed prior to the day scheduled.

LECTURES:

The lectures in this course will follow the same general topics as are to be found in the text, but sometimes with different emphasis or viewpoint. You will be expected to know and understand lecture materials thoroughly.

EXAMINATIONS AND QUIZZES:

There will be three examinations in this class.

The first exam will cover chapters 1-4, plus accompanying lectures and current events **and will be 50 minutes in length.**

The second exam will cover chapters 5-8, plus accompanying lectures and current events **and will be 50 minutes in length.**

The final exam will cover chapters 10 – 16 - **omitting chapter 13**, plus accompanying lectures and current events.

Each exam will be approximately 20% short answer/identification, and 80% essay.

Since the quizzes (see below) will test exclusively on the text materials, the exams will be weighted toward materials covered in lectures.

The final exam will be given **according to the registrar's schedule** as stated in the Academic Calendar.

No exams will be given early!!

Quizzes of 10 multiple-choice questions will be given over each chapter **before** it has been covered in class. Please check attached schedule for quiz dates. If or when necessary, this schedule may be modified somewhat. Your quiz results, taken altogether, will account for 30% of your final grade. You will be able to drop the lowest score from your quiz results. **Make-up quizzes will not be given. If you miss one, that will be the one you drop. If you miss more than one, each subsequent unexcused (pursuant to university policy) miss will be a zero.**

COURSE FORMAT:

The format of the course will be primarily discussion. Relevant questions are always in order. The lectures will be used to stress, emphasize, and reinforce the importance of key matters mostly also covered in the text. Current events will also be the basis of discussion.

GRADES:

Your final grade will be determined on a percentage basis roughly as follows:

90-100% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

below 60% = F

Quizzes will be averaged and count as 30% of your grade. Exams 1 & 2 will each be 15% of your grade. The Final Exam will be 30% of your grade. Class participation will account for the remaining 10% of your grade.

Schedule (Subject to Change)

| Date | Activity |
|--------------------|---|
| Jan 10 | Intro |
| Jan 12 | Ch. 1 Discussion (Quiz not graded) |
| Jan 17 | Ch. 1 Discussion (Bring Survey Numbers) |
| Jan 19 | Ch. 2 Quiz - Discussion |
| Jan 24 | Ch. 3 Quiz - Discussion |
| Jan 26 | Ch. 4 Quiz - Discussion |
| Jan 31 | Ch. 4 Discussion |
| Feb 2 | review |
| Feb 7 | Exam 1 – Chs 1-4 |
| Feb 9 | Ch. 5 Quiz - Discussion |
| Feb 15 | Ch. 5 Discussion |
| Feb 16 | Ch. 6 Quiz - Discussion |
| Feb 21 | Ch. 6 Discussion |
| Feb 23 | Ch. 7 Quiz - Discussion |
| Feb 28 | Ch. 8 Quiz - Discussion |
| Mar 2 | Exam 2 – Chs 5-8 |
| Mar 7 | spring break |
| Mar 9 | spring break |
| Mar 14 | Ch. 10 Quiz - Discussion |
| Mar 16 | Ch. 10 Discussion |
| Mar 21 | Ch. 11 Quiz – Discussion |
| Mar 23 | Ch. 12 Quiz - Discussion |
| Mar 28 | Ch. 14 Quiz - Discussion |
| Mar 30 | Ch. 14 Discussion |
| Apr 4 | Ch. 14 Discussion |
| Apr 6 | Ch. 15 Quiz - Discussion |
| Apr 11 | Ch. 15 Discussion |
| Apr 13 | Ch. 15 Discussion – minor research assignment |
| Apr 18 | Ch. 16 Quiz - Discussion |
| Apr 20 | Ch. 16 Discussion |
| Apr 25 | Ch. 16 Discussion |
| Apr 27 | Review |
| Finals Week | Final (Chs. 10-12;14-16) |

Students needing special academic accommodations and who have documented disabilities should make an appointment to discuss these accommodations. Students with disabilities are also encouraged to visit the SIUE Disability Support Services office located in the Student Success Center. Their telephone number is (618) 650-3726.

The usual restrictions and/or regulations in university classes will apply in this course:

- 1) Cheating will not be tolerated; those who are caught cheating will fail the course.
- 2) Subject to other university policy, attendance is required, and students may be penalized for missing class.
- 3) Tests are to be taken when scheduled. Make-up exams will be given only for compelling reasons. As noted above, no make-up quizzes will be given. If you miss a quiz that will be the score you get to drop.
- 4) **No photographing, recording, or otherwise capturing the image or voice of students or faculty is allowed without permission. Anyone who does so will be removed from the class and receive a grade of F.**

Code of conduct (borrowed from Dr. DeGarmo but with minor edits):

Student Conduct in Class:

Political Science is a field of debate and disagreement - that is what is so exciting about this field. But given that Political Science can be a contentious subject, some simple rules of behavior will be required. First, no behavior that manifests a lack of respect for others or their learning objectives will be tolerated. Should you engage in disrespectful, hostile, racist, demeaning or disruptive behavior, you will be removed from class immediately. It is absolutely crucial that everyone feel comfortable stating and defending his or her own views.

You may use a laptop in class to access PowerPoints, online notes, or to type your own notes.

You may not use your laptop to surf the internet or check your email. You are expected to close your computer when we are involved in class discussion. Additionally, please turn your cell phones off and stow them in a backpack for the duration of the class. If you fail to follow these few simple rules, all student electronic devices will be banned from the classroom and the entire class may be penalized up to one-letter grade in their final course grade.

Academic Honesty and Integrity:

Academic honesty and integrity are the keystones of education. Genuine learning can only occur in an atmosphere of honesty and integrity. Honesty and integrity also provide the foundation to good citizenship. You should consult the SIUE policy on honesty and integrity before taking this class. In regard to academic dishonesty: No kind or degree of academic dishonesty (i.e. cheating or plagiarism) will be tolerated. Any such behavior on any assignment will result in failing the course and additional measures taken through official channels. There are no exceptions to this rule – you plagiarize and you fail the course. For more information about student ethics and behavior see the paragraph below which is taken from the Undergraduate Catalogue:

"Student Social Conduct, Student Academic Conduct, Student Grievance: Students enrolling in the University assume responsibility for conduct compatible with the learning environment of the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the Student Social Conduct Code, Student Academic Code, and Student Grievance Code. These policies describe the University's expectations for student conduct, sanctions imposed for violations of the standards, and procedures which students may follow in filing grievances. The University gives high priority to matters of academic ethics and abhors all types of cheating, including plagiarism. Plagiarism is the act of representing the work of another as one's own and may consist of copying or otherwise using written or oral work of another without proper acknowledgment of the source. Instructors may impose sanctions for academic cheating in accordance with the Student Academic Code. The minimum penalty for academic misconduct beyond failure for an assignment and/or for a course is disciplinary probation. Students who wish to understand matters relative to academic ethics and plagiarism should consult their advisers or instructors. Copies of the Codes are available in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, the Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Graduate School, the Service Center, and in the Office of the Dean, School of Dental Medicine."

Feel free to ask me questions you may have about academic honesty. The core principle behind the student academic code is one in which students represent original work. When you plagiarize or cheat you violate the expectation of honesty and trust between teacher and student and student and student. Students who work hard to complete assignments are being violated by those who take shortcuts to complete the same assignment, not to mention that cheaters and plagiarizers cheat themselves of the opportunity to learn. Therefore, it my expectation that not only will you use appropriate citation, but that the work for the course is your own and it is original.