

SU15_POL SC 110_501_MelzerR

THE POLITICAL WORLD

POLITICAL SCIENCE 110

SUMMER 2015

1:30-4:15 p.m. (1:30-2:45 & 3:00-4:15 p.m.)

Instructor: Richard Melzer, Ph.D.

Office: Room #102, Academic Building

Office Phone: 925-8620

e-mail: rmelzer@unm.edu

Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays,

9:30-10:00 a.m. & 4:15-5:00 p.m. & by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to politics, with emphasis on the ways people can understand their own political systems and those of others. (Students who have already had courses in Political Science may not count PS 110 towards a major in Political Science.)

TEXTBOOK:

OPTIONAL: Michael G. Roskin, Robert L. Cord, James A. Medeiros, & Walter S. Jones, *Political Science: An Introduction* (Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, **any edition**); ON RESERVE IN THE LIBRARY.

REQUIRED: Course binder with **essential** course materials

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To introduce students to the basic terms and concepts of Political Science;
2. To introduce students to the world's major political philosophies and ideologies;
3. To introduce students to the world's main democratic systems, reviewing the advantages and disadvantages of each;
4. To introduce students to the role of political violence, especially terrorism & revolution;
5. To introduce students to international relations;
6. To help students develop the habit of keeping up-to-date on political developments as they occur in the United States and around the world.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

WEEK #1 Monday, June 1:
Syllabus Review
Basic Political Terms & Concepts
Why do we study political science?

Wednesday, June 3:
Political Philosophy:
Plato & The Republic
&
Monarchy & Machiavelli's The Prince
Political Science, pages 20-22

WEEK #2 Monday, June 8:
Political Philosophy:
Classic Liberalism
Political Science, pages 22, 92-96

Wednesday, June 10:
Class starts at 1:45 p.m.
Map Quiz
Political Philosophy:
Modern Liberalism
Political Science, pages 97-98
&
Conservatism
Political Science, page 98

WEEK #3 Monday, June 15:
Political Philosophy:
Marxism
Political Science, pages 23-25, 99-100, &
Fascism
Political Science, pages 106-107

Wednesday, June 17:
Class starts at 1:45 p.m.

Catch-up &
Review in class
Review Sheet #1 due

WEEK #4 Monday, June 22:
Exam #1
&
Comparative Government:
American Democracy
Political Science, pages 212-235

Wednesday, June 24:
Comparative Government:
American Democracy

WEEK #5 Monday, June 29:
Comparative Government:
English Parliamentary Democracy
Political Science, pages 256-283

Wednesday, July 1:
Other Democratic Systems

WEEK #6 Monday, July 6:
Catch-up &
Review in class
Review Sheet #2 due

Wednesday, July 8:
Class starts at 1:45 p.m.
Exam #2
National Political Violence & Revolutions

WEEK #7 Monday, July 13:
 National Political Violence & Revolutions
Political Science, pages 366-376
 &
 International Relations
Political Science, pages 378-394
Optional extra credit projects due

Wednesday, July 15:
 International Relations (continued)

WEEK #8 Monday, July 20:
Class starts at 2:00 p.m.
 Catch-up &
 Review in class
Review Sheet #3 due

Wednesday, July 22:
Exam #3

GRADING:

<u>GRADED ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE OF FINAL GRADE</u>
Political Updates	every class	10%
Map Quiz	Wednesday, June 10	10%
Review Sheet #1	Wednesday, June 17	3.3%
Review Sheet #2	Monday, July 6	3.3%
Review Sheet #3	Monday, July 20	3.3%
Exam #1	Monday, June 22	20%
Exam #2	Wednesday, July 8	20%
Exam #3	Wednesday, July 22	30%
Extra Credit	Monday, July 10	+1 point
TOTAL.....		100%

REVIEW SHEETS:

Review sheets are to help you study well. Review sheets are not corrected. They are graded in the following manner:

- A if all questions are thoroughly answered
- C if most questions are thoroughly answered
- D if some questions are thoroughly answered
- F if a review sheet was not submitted

EXAMS:

All exams are objective and include the following 3 parts:

Part 1: 35 Matching Ids	35 points
Part 2: 30 Short Answer Questions	60 points
Part 3: 5 Political Map Questions	5 points
TOTAL.....	100 points

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Students found cheating will receive a zero for the quiz or exam in question.

Students cannot use I-Pods, cell phones, earphones, or other electronic equipment during tests.

LATE POLICY:

Students who miss exams or turn assignments in late will lose 10 points off the exam or assignment.

This penalty is not enforced only if the student lets the instructor know *prior to* the due date that he/she has an emergency and will be unable to take the test or submit the assignment by the scheduled time.

If the instructor agrees that there is in fact an emergency, a new due date will be scheduled as soon as possible.

GRADE LEVELS:

FOR EXAMS & FINAL COURSE GRADES

98-100: A+

STUDENTS MUST HAVE A 98 OR HIGHER AVERAGE & DO AN
EXTRA CREDIT PAPER ITO QUALIFY FOR AN A+ IN THE COURSE

93-97 : A

90-92 : A-

87-89 : B+

83-86 : B

80-82 : B-

77-79 : C+

73-76 : C

70-72 : C-

67-69 : D+

63-66 : D

60-62 : D-

0-59 : F

Incomplete: I

POLITICAL UPDATES:

Each class will include a discussion of recent political events or issues in the United States or the world.

Each student should be prepared to present at least 2 such events or issues in case they are called on to do so during these sessions. This will require regularly reading newspapers and/or newsmagazines and/or the internet and/or listening to radio and/or TV news broadcasts.

Political Updates are reported on 3x5 index cards with your name, date, headline #1 and source, headline #2 and source.

Students receive 100% for each class they submit a Political Update. They received 0% for each day they no not report on a Political Update, either because they don't have one or because they are absent.

Political Updates are worth 10% of your final grade.

CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Students are not graded on their general class participation. However, those who participate regularly and well in class will benefit if they are within one

point of the next higher grade level. In such a case the student would receive the higher grade.

For example, if a student had an 89 average and had participated regularly and well he/she would receive an A- rather than a B+ for the course.

PAIR & SHARE MOMENTS:

You will be asked to identify a person sitting near you to be your Pair & Share Partner.

Periodically, questions will arise in class that you will be asked to discuss with your Pair & Share Partner. After a few moments of discussion (called Pair & Share Moments), you may be asked to share your group's ideas with the class as a whole. In this way we'll try to get as many people as possible involved in class discussions.

EXTRA CREDIT:

Students can earn one extra credit point to be added to their final average by writing an acceptable one-page reaction paper on one of the following:

VIDEOS:

"All the Kings Men"
"Ghosts of Mississippi"
"Mississippi Burning"
"The Secret Government"
"Inside the CIA"
"High Crimes & Misdemeanors"
"Classics of Political TV Advertising"
"13 Days"
or other political videos agreed on with the instructor

BOOKS:

Robert Penn Warren, *All the Kings Men*
George Orwell, *1984*
Edwin O'Connor, *The Last Hurrah*
Brad Meltzer, *The 10th Justice*
or other political novels agreed on with the instructor

Most of these videos and books are available in the campus library.

Reaction papers should briefly describe the video or book and comment on its main points as they relate to our discussions in class and your readings.

Extra credit reaction papers can be submitted at any time during the semester, but no later than Monday, July 13.

SPECIAL NEEDS:

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with special needs based on learning disabilities are encouraged to discuss these needs with the instructor. To be tested for learning disabilities, contact the Student Enrichment Center in the Library Building or at 925-8920.

CELL PHONES:

Students can bring cell phones into class to receive emergency calls. However, they must be set to "discreet" and should not ring during class.

PERSONAL CONVERSATIONS:

Students who need to have a personal conversation during class time will be asked to leave the room and return when their conversation is over.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Attendance is ***taken both before and at the end of each class session***. Students can only sign in *prior to and at the end* of each class by initializing the attendance book. Late arrivals can not sign in, although they can stay to participate and take notes in class. Late arrivals are considered *absent*.

Students with 2 consecutive absences (that is, missing 2 straight full days of class) or 3 regular absences (that is, missing any 3 full days of class) will be dropped from the course by the instructor. There are no "excused absences."

Students can not sign the attendance book for other students. Students who sign in for other students will be charged with an absence, as will the student he or she signed in for.

If you are forced to miss a class due to an emergency, you are encouraged to get the notes for the day you missed from your Pair and Share Partner (or any other reliable member of the class) and carefully reread the suggested reading for the day.