

University of New Mexico, Valencia- Political Science 1140
The Political World
Summer 2023
Online, Section:

Name: Dr. Sara Furnal
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Office Hours

Campus Office Hours:

N/A

Online Office Hours:

Mon. 12-1 p.m. via Zoom appointment



About Your Instructor: Born in Hobbs, NM, I grew up in Texas and have lived all over the United States since then. I obtained my BA and MA from the University of Houston and then obtained my PhD in Political Science at the University of California, Davis, with specialization in American Politics and Political Theory.

Preferred Method of Communication: I am an off-campus distance instructor, so email is the best way to get in touch with me.

E-mail: sfurnal@unm.edu

Expectations for Engagement for Instructor:

As an instructor, I understand the importance of clear, timely communication with my students. In order to maintain sufficient communication, I will

- provide my contact information at the beginning of the syllabus;
- respond to all messages within 24 hours if received Monday through Thursday, and within 48 hours if received Friday through Sunday; and,
- notify students of any extended times that I will be unavailable and provide them with alternative contact information (for me or for my supervisor) in case of during the time I am unavailable.

As an instructor, I understand that my students will work to the best of their abilities to fulfill the course requirements. In order to help them in this area, I will

- provide clear information about grading policies and assignment requirements in the course syllabus, and
- communicate any changes to assignments and/or to the course calendar to students as quickly as possible.

Course Communication:

Important course announcements will be communicated via the Announcements tool on Blackboard Learn. This will forward an email to your campus (registered) email address. Be sure to check the Announcements tab on the course home page regularly.

Textbook:

The Challenge of Politics, 6th or 7th edition, by Douglas W. Simon, Joseph Romance, and Neil Reimer. You can find this at the bookstore, online via the publisher (Sage), or through other online stores like Amazon (where it is significantly less expensive). It is perfectly fine if you would like to use the previous (5th or 6th) editions, as you can find less expensive versions of these, as well. It is also possible to rent the textbook from the publisher (Sage) or Amazon for a significantly reduced cost.

Recommended resources for additional exploration:

The *Challenge of Politics* student companion website (free supplementary and study resources for students) - <https://edge.sagepub.com/simon7e/student-resources-0>

Hardware:

The online course content will work better the more up to date your computer is. Please try to do what you can to make these updates happen. Make sure that your system meets the requirements specified on Blackboard before signing up for an online course. A **functional computer** with speakers is **necessary for success in this course**, and you will need to use your computer quite frequently. You will also need frequent internet access. If this is a problem, please consider taking the course in the traditional, campus-based manner.

Software: *None.*

Technical Support Information:

IT Customer Support Services - Note: IT Customer Support handles username/ password issues.

Phone: 505-277-5757

<http://it.unm.edu/support/>

Course Description:

POLS 1140: The Political World. (3) 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 POLS 110 toward a major at UNM. Meets UNMCC – Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences; meets NMCC– Area IV: Social/Behavioral Sciences.

This course introduces politics with emphasis on the ways people can understand their own political systems and those of others in a greater depth. This course will help in becoming more responsible and effective in the political world.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS: You can find the weight of each assignment for your total course grade under the next section of the syllabus.

Weekly Assignments: You will have a weekly assignment consisting of either a reading quiz or a discussion question, depending on the week. For the discussion questions, you will need to explore with a thoughtful answer. Your answer will need to be at least 250 words and you will need to respond to two classmates for full credit. The reading quizzes will be short and consist of multiple choice questions. Each weekly assignment is worth 100 points.

Midterm Exam: There will be a midterm exam halfway through the course. The chapters for each exam are listed in the course schedule. The exam will be worth 100 points and will contain multiple choice questions.

Final Exam: The exam will be worth 100 points and will contain multiple choice questions. There will be a comprehensive final exam on the last week of the course.

GRADING: All assignments will be graded within one week.

| <i>Quantity</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Weight</i> |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| 2 | Midterm and Final Exam | 60% (30% each) |
| 6 | Weekly Assignments | 40% |
| Total | | 100% |

Grading Scale:

A: 93-100, A-: 90-92, B+: 87-89, B: 83-86, B-: 80-82, C+: 77-79, C: 73-76, C-: 70-72, D+: 67-69, D: 63-66, D-: 60-62, F: 59 or below

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Compare different viewpoints on major political issues
2. Demonstrate critical thinking skills and abilities in regards to political problems, trends, and developments
3. Grasp the significance of government actions
4. Demonstrate a better understanding of the world and show appreciation for the richness of political cultures in the world, and be able to apply political science theories and concepts to real world cases
5. Be able to communicate in an informed and effective way about the political world
6. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of their own rights and obligations as citizens

7. Obtain an understanding of foundational aspects of both political theory and practice among countries throughout the world, which includes current political issues and their relevance to politics in general

Unit 1 (Political Science and Political Philosophy): In the first part of the course, we will examine some of the strategies that politicians use; define political science; and explore how the larger physical, social, ethical, and cultural environment influences political values, behavior, and judgment. **(Course learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)**

Unit 2 (American Politics, Comparative Politics, and International Relations): The second part of the course will focus on the actual political processes used in the United States and around the globe and will cover the major dilemmas in politics, political culture in the United States and its historical foundation, comparative politics, and international politics. **(Course learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)**

***Course Schedule:**

(Tentative and Subject to Change)

| Date | Topic | Assignment | Assignment Submission |
|---------------------|---|--|------------------------------|
| Week 1 6/5-6/11 | Introduction to Course | Read Syllabus/Get Textbook Read chapter 1 and Melian Dialogue Watch lecture recordings Discussion Question 1 | Due June 11 by 11:59 p.m. |
| Week 2 6/12-6/18 | Political Science: Components, Tasks, and Controversies | Read chapter 3 Watch lecture recordings Week 2 Quiz | Due June 18 by 11:59 p.m. |
| Week 3 6/19-6/25 | The Quest for the Good Political Life | Read chapter 5 Watch lecture recordings Discussion Question 2 | Due June 25 by 11:59 p.m. |
| Week 4 6/26-7/2 | Political Form, Culture, and Values | Read chapter 8 Watch lecture recordings Midterm Exam | Due July 2 by 11:59 p.m. |
| Week 5 7/3-7/9 | American Politics and Government | Read chapter 9 Watch lecture recordings Discussion Question 3 | Due July 9 by 11:59 p.m. |
| Week 6 7/10-7/16 | Comparative Politics | Read chapter 10 Watch lecture recordings Week 6 Quiz | Due July 16 by 11:59 p.m. |
| Week 7 7/17-7/23 | International Politics and the Global Community | Read chapter 11 Watch lecture recordings | Due July 23 by 11:59 p.m. |

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|---------------------|---|--|--|
| | | Week 7 Quiz | |
| Week 8 7/24-7/29 | Class Film and Extra Credit Activity | Watch video (link in module) Complete Extra Credit <i>Final Exam</i> | Extra credit Due July 27 by 11:59 p.m. Exam Due July 29 by 11:59 p.m. (note that this is Saturday) |

Expectations for Student: Course Participation:

As a student, I understand that I am responsible for keeping up with the course. To help with this, I will

- identify alternative computer and internet access in case my primary computer crashes or my internet service is unavailable;
- recognize that the college provides free wi-fi and computer labs during regular campus hours to help me with accessing my course; and,
- understand that my instructor does not have to accept my technical issues as a legitimate reason for late or missing work if my equipment or service is unreliable.

As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to communicate quickly with the instructor any issue or emergency that will impact my involvement with or performance in the class. This includes, but is not limited to

- getting “kicked off” of the system during tests or quizzes;
- having trouble submitting assignments;

As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to understand course material and requirements and to keep up with the course calendar. While my instructor is available for help and clarification, I will

- seek out help from my instructor and/or from tutors;
- ask questions if I don’t understand; and
- access my course several times during the week to keep up with assignments and announcements.

Course Policies:

Disclaimer:

This syllabus is tentative and subject to change in any part at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified of changes, if any, in a timely manner.

Original Effort:

The work submitted for this course must be original work prepared by the student enrolled in this course.

Digital Protocol:

For online submissions, the electronic recording of the time on Canvas will be considered the time of assignment submission. Take necessary steps to ensure that your assignments are submitted on “Canvas” time. Back-up and/or additional copies of all assignments submitted is encouraged. Assignments submitted electronically need to follow the file-type requirements provided by the instructor.

Attendance Policy:

Please keep in mind that this is **not** a self-paced or an open entry course. It is an internet course that is conducted in much the same way as an on-campus, face-to-face class with regard to deadlines, etc. You will need to be able to access the course often in order to succeed, as well as see vital course announcements. Please see Student Handbook for UNM attendance policy beyond this.

Drop Policy:

Instructors may drop students from their classes for reasons of excessive absences. The student is responsible for the completion of every course for which the student has registered; if the student drops a course at any time without completing the official change of program procedures, a grade of F may be assigned even though the student may be passing when she or he stopped attending classes.

Grade Inquiry:

It is the responsibility of the student to keep track of assignment submissions and grades. At any point, you are welcome to meet with the instructor to discuss your academic progress. Contact the instructor to schedule an appointment.

General Course Requirements:

1. Attend class (login regularly) and participate.
2. Respond to emails within 48 hours.
3. Contribute and cooperate with civility.
4. **Submit assignments on time.**

Netiquette:

Make sure to treat other course members (e.g. students, the instructor, teaching assistants) with respect. The instructor will address any instances of harassment and pursue repercussions according to the University's policy on harassment.

Netiquette Ground Rules:

- "In following with the UNM Student Handbook, all students will show respect to their fellow students and instructor when interacting in this course. Take Netiquette suggestions seriously. Flaming is considered a serious violation and will be dealt with promptly. Postings that do not reflect respect will be taken down immediately." (Rebecca Adams, OLIT 535)
- "This course encourages different perspectives related to such factors as gender, race, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, and other relevant cultural identities. The course seeks to foster understanding and inclusiveness related to such diverse perspectives and ways of communicating."

Late Assignment/Make-up Policy:

No extensions will be given for any assignment or examination without a written medical excuse or approval from me. Please email me to discuss any concerns or conflicts.

Accommodation Statement:

In accordance with University Policy 2310 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as he/she are not legally permitted to inquire. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow. Contact Accessibility Resource Center at 277-3506 for additional information.

Copyright Issues:

All materials in this course fall under copyright laws and should not be downloaded, distributed, or used by students for any purpose outside this course. (<http://www.unm.edu/~counsel/general/copyright.htm>)

Academic Misconduct:

You should be familiar with UNM's Policy on Academic Dishonesty and the Student Code of Conduct (<http://pathfinder.unm.edu/policies.htm#studentcode>) which outline academic misconduct defined as plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, or facilitating any such act.

Title IX Statement:

In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered "responsible employees" by the Department of Education (see pg 15 - <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity (oeo.unm.edu). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>

Academic Integrity Statement:

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

Valencia Student Services/Resources:

Valencia Campus Resources Directory:

<https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/>

The Learning Center (tutoring, computers, and study resources):

<https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/the-learning-center/index.html>

Accessibility:

<https://valencia.unm.edu/about/accessibility.html>

UNM Valencia Library:

<https://valencia.unm.edu/library/index.html>

If you need to talk to someone:

AGORA Crisis Center:

<http://www.agoracares.org/>

Option for online chat.

Phone numbers for AGORA Hotline:

505-277-3013

866-HELP-1-NM

800-273-TALK