

POLS 110 INTRO TO POLITICAL SCIENCE
Fundamental Terms, Theory and Issues in Political Science
SPRING 2016 (JAN 11 – MAY 9, 2016)

Instructor: Ozge Tekin
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Days/Time/Classroom: MW/3:00-4:15 PM/BUSAD D201
Office Hours: MW 4:30-5:30PM

→ **COURSE TEXT AND REQUIRED MATERIAL:**

The following book is **REQUIRED** for the course:

- Ellen Grigsby. Analyzing Politics. 6th edition. Cengage Advantage Books
- All secondary readings are compulsory. They are subject to change and will be available on Laulima under resources.

→ **COURSE OVERVIEW**

The primary goal of this course is to provide a window for you into the field of political science. By the end of this course you will have an educated perspective on how to approach the concepts and methodology of Political Science as well as the various fields of the discipline including American politics, comparative politics, international relations, and political philosophy. During this course you will learn about political ideas, theories, systems and policies in order to focus and examine political issues on a national and global level. Defining central concepts related to the study of political science and engaging in discussions by employing these concepts are central for this course.

This course makes use of LAULIMA, the University of Hawaii's learning management system for the distribution of assignments. All secondary readings and session power-point slides will be uploaded on Laulima.

→ **COURSE GOALS** - Upon completion of this course, students will be able to

1. learn and exercise how to write a critical essay
2. explain the meaning of state, nation, politics, and power;
3. define the basic terminologies and central concepts in Political Science;
4. trace the evolution of political thoughts from several classic philosophers to contemporary political science ideologies and philosophies;
5. explain the role of political culture and political socialization in the development of the state;
6. learn about the research methods and tools of political science research;
7. understand and evaluate the significance and influence/impact of civil society and non-governmental organizations, interest groups, media, and political parties;
8. examine the basic elements of political systems, modern constitutional democracies and authoritarian states;
9. explain why we cannot have a common definition of democracy and why democracy is hard to maintain, establish by giving examples from contemporary global and national issues;

10. identify the various forms and functions of modern governments including representative assemblies, understand the main differences between presidential and parliamentary systems;
11. determine the actors who influence public policy and the decision making process;
12. analyze the role of globalization, terrorism, international and regional forces in the 21st century
13. debate the reasons of conflict and compromises that occur within and among nations and governments

→ COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

1. Participation and Attendance (10% of the grade): Students are expected to arrive on time and participate in all scheduled class sessions.

2. Written Assignments (15% of the grade): 3 written assignments will be submitted to the instructor for evaluation. Written assignments are due on the dates as marked on the syllabus. Students will be asked to submit a 3 page (max) essay for each written assignment. The purpose of this course requirement is to exercise how to write a critical essay. In this part of the course requirement, you will first evaluate the argument presented by the philosopher on the subject matter (i.e. justice, friendship, equality, etc.) then you will make an argument either for or against the philosopher. Instructions will be provided a week before the first WA is due. The instructor will scan and return your essays electronically in your DROP BOXES on Laulima. Your returned essays will include written feedback. If you want to discuss your feedback on the WAs, please make an appointment with the instructor. The office hours are as marked on top of this page. Students are required to bring a hard copy to class on the day the assignment is due. **LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. DIGITAL COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

3. Quizzes (15% of the grade): There will be 7 in-class quizzes and each quiz will be based on the assigned chapters, readings of the week. The quizzes are NOT meant to be difficult they are, however, to make sure that you understood the basic concepts and material that was covered in each chapter. Each quiz will be composed of 15 multiple-choice questions and they will be given at the beginning of the assigned sessions as marked on the syllabus.

4. Midterm (25% of the grade): There will be a multiple choice, in-class test given to students. The midterm exam will be on course materials covered until the day of exam.

5. Final (35% of the grade): There will be a **8-10 page final essay** due on the last session of the class. In this part of the course requirement, students will be asked to submit an enhanced version of one of their written assignment topics. Enhanced version is going to be a comparative critical essay in which students will be asked to compare the main concepts, statements, and ideas that they critically analyzed in one of their written assignments to the similar ideas and concepts introduced in a second or third assigned reading. Final essay questions will be provided after the midterm. Final essays will be scanned and e-mailed to the students with a grade and feedback written on them.

GRADING: Grading will be *strictly* determined by a *weighted average* of the scores you receive on the requirements above. The scale is as follows:

A+: 95 percent and above	B+: 84~86 percent	C+: 73~75 percent	D+: 63~65 percent	F: 54 and below
A : 90~94 percent	B : 80~83 percent	C: 70~72 percent	D: 60~62 percent	
A-: 87~89 percent	B-: 76~79 percent	C-: 66~69 percent	D-: 55~59 percent	

→ **SCHEDULE OF READINGS**

WEEK 1:

1/11: Syllabus + Laulima
 1/13: What is politics? What is political science?
 Political Science and Scientific Methods
Readings: Grigsby, Ch 1 & Ch 2

WEEK 2:

1/18: NO CLASS – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
 1/20: Key Concepts in Political Science: Power, State, Nation
Readings: Grigsby, Ch 3

WEEK 3:

**POLITICAL THEORY I: WHAT PURPOSE SHOULD STATES SERVE?
 – JUSTICE**
1/ 25: Quiz #1 from Grigsby, chapters Ch 1 & Ch 2 & Ch 3
 1/25: Socrates, Apology (**Readings: Laulima – Look under resources**)
 Plato, Republic Book II (Laulima)
– EUDEMONIA
 1/27: Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, Book I (Laulima)
 1/27: How to write a critical essay?

WEEK 4:

2/1: Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, Book II, VIII (Laulima)
2/3: WA # 1 DUE @ 3:00 PM IN CLASS
 2/3: Aristotle, Politics, Books I & II (Laulima)

WEEK 5:

2/8: Aristotle, Politics, Books III & IV (Laulima)
POLITICAL THEORY II: HOW SHOULD STATES ORGANIZE? HUMAN NATURE ARGUMENTS
2/10: WA #2 DUE @ 3:00 PM IN CLASS
 2/10: Rousseau, Second Discourse (Laulima)

WEEK 6:

2/15: NO CLASS – President’s Day
 2/17: Rousseau, Social Contract (Laulima)
Readings: Grigsby, Ch4

WEEK 7: POLITICAL THEORY III: SHOULD STATES TRY TO HELP US BE ETHICAL?

2/22: WA #3 DUE @ 3:00 PM IN CLASS

2/22: Constant, Ancient vs. Modern Freedom (Laulima)

2/24: Mill, On liberty (Laulima)

Reading: Grigsby, Ch4

WEEK 8: 2/29: QUIZ #2 from Grigsby Ch 4

POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES

2/29: John Locke & Adam Smith (Classical liberalism), Modern Liberalism

3/2: Burke, Reflections on the French Revolution (Laulima)

Readings: Grigsby, Ch 5 & Ch 6

WEEK 9: 3/7: Karl Marx, Communist Manifesto (Laulima)

3/9: Feminism

Readings: Grigsby, Ch 5 & Ch 6

WEEK 10: 3/14: QUIZ #3 from Grigsby Ch 5 & Ch 6

3/14: Environmentalism & Postmodernism

Reading: Grigsby, Ch 7

3/16: **MIDTERM EXAM**

WEEK 11: 3/21 – 3/25: SPRING BREAK

WEEK 12: 3/28: Comparative Politics. Context: Democracy

3/30: Comparative Politics. Context: Theoretical approaches

Reading: Grigsby, Ch 8

WEEK 13: 4/4: QUIZ #4 from Grigsby Ch 7 & Ch 8

4/4: Democracy continued

4/6: Federalist papers #10 and #51, PBS Video excerpt: Park Ave.

WEEK 14: 4/11: Interest Groups, Political Parties, Elections

4/13: Interest Groups, Political Parties, Elections continued

Reading: Grigsby, Ch 9

WEEK 15: 4/18: QUIZ #5 from Grigsby Ch 9

4/18: Presidential vs. Parliamentary Systems

4/20: Presidential vs. Parliamentary continued

Reading: Grigsby, Ch 10

WEEK 16: 4/25: International Relations & Theory

4/27: International Relations & Theory continued

Reading: Grigsby, Ch 11

WEEK 17: 5/2: QUIZ # 6 from Grigsby Ch 11
5/2: International Relations Contemporary Issues
5/4: QUIZ #7 from Grigsby Ch 12
5/4: Review for final essay/critical writing workshop

**FINAL ESSAYS DUE IN CLASS ON 5/9 @3:00PM - 4:15 PM - NO LATE SUBMISSIONS
WILL BE ACCEPTED**

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Please note that if you have any documented disabilities, which will require adaptation in this course you should make an appointment with the **KOKUA office:**

Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services 013
2600 Campus Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

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(808) 956-7511

(808) 956-7612

Fax: (808) 956- 8093

E-mail: kokua@hawaii.edu

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.