

Political Science 190
Professor Dick Simpson

Fall Semester, 2003
Dept. of Political Science

COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

The assignments for the course are clearly listed for each day on the assignment sheet. It is expected that you will have completed the week's readings, exercises, and special assignments by Friday's discussion sessions each week.

This is a multi-media course utilizing lectures, films, videotapes, computer exercises, the Internet, and classroom discussion sessions. You will read six books during the semester. All of these components have been explicitly organized for you by a series of study guides in the book, WHO RULES? INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS. All texts for the course are the University Bookstore at Circle Center. We will be utilizing the computer for some exercises and Internet class discussions. Special instructions will be provided to guide you in using the computer for this course by the fourth week of class. You need to be sure that you have an email account as instructions on the computer exercises will be given over the Internet and completed exercises will be submitted by email.

First step:

The first step after glancing at these instructions and purchasing your books is to begin reading WHO RULES? You will find in that workbook a study guide for major lectures and films along with the exercises and some of the course readings. We will review in class on August 28th the study guide on the Introductory Lecture and TV Program, "The Study of Politics" and answer the questions on the TV Program together.

Course grade:

Your grade for the course will be determined by six tests: 1) a midterm examination consisting of 50 questions worth one point each; 2) a 5-10 page philosophy paper graded on a scale of zero to 25; 3) a series of exercises including the Internet and written film reaction exercises and your contributions to class discussions are worth up to 10 points; 4) participation in a youth agenda convention, 10 points 5) work on a political campaign, registering voters, or a civic education project worth 5 points; and 6) a final exam consisting of 50 questions on the last half of the course worth 50 points.

If your philosophy paper is unsatisfactory, it may be corrected and resubmitted once. The highest possible score for the entire course is thus 150 points. Grades shall be apportioned then as follows: 135-150 = A; 120-134 = B; 100-119 = C; 85-99 = D; Below 85 = E.

If you fail to turn in your paper or fail to take the final exam without permission you will receive automatically a failing grade. The midterm and final exams are a special type of multiple choice exam as shown on page 50 of WHO RULES? They are machine scored. Your philosophy papers are due on November 14th. They will be graded and returned on November 21st and may be rewritten once, if necessary.

My office hours are on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3-4 p.m. or you may see

me by appointment. My office is 1108D BSB. Your teaching assistants are Daniel Bliss and Kevin Navratil. Their office hours are 2-3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays or by appointment. They will provide you with their office address and email address when they meet with you Friday August 29th in your discussion groups.

Course Assumptions:

This course has been carefully designed to make sure that you will have a powerful introduction to the study of politics and the basic tools of analysis, philosophy and action so that you may become a political leader. It's intent is to introduce the discipline of political science and the study of politics in a way that will facilitate any future courses you may take on politics and to provide you the tools of effective and engaged citizenry.

Final Reminder:

Please remember to turn off your cell phone or pager when you enter the classroom. They can be a major disturbance to your classmates. If you interrupt the class more than once because of them points will be taken from your final grade!

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>REQUIRED READING</u>
Week I Aug 26-29	Introductory Lecture TV Program: "The Study of Politics" half, Discussion: The study of politics and the philosophy of George Washington Plunkitt	<u>Who Rules?</u> pp.3-6; 111-112 and Plunkitt of Tammany Hall (First half, pp. vii - 60)
Week II Sept 2-5	Lecture on Political Philosophy Movie: "The Lord of the Flies" Discussion: How do you choose your political philosophy?	<u>Who Rules?</u> pp.7-9, and 16-18. Plunkitt (Second half, pp. 61-98).
Week III Sept 9-12	Lecture on Political Action Movie: "The Triumph of the Will" Discussion of Political Philosophy, Political Action and the two films: "Lord..." and "Triumph..."	<u>Who Rules?</u> pp. 10-12 Political Information Questionnaire on pp.55-59, due on Sept. 12
Week IV Sept 16-19	Lecture: Plunkitt and the Federalists Movie: "Primary Colors" 77.	"The Federalist Papers"#10,47,& 51. <u>Who Rules?</u> pp. 70- Lecture Notes and Discussion of Political Study guide on Political Action, Information Questionnaire in <u>Who Rules?</u> pp.10-12. Begin Internet Questionnaire, due On Oct. 3
Week V Sept 23-26	Lecture: Different types of Elections Movie: "By the People" Discussion: Different Types of Elections,	<u>The Communist Manifesto</u> (all) <u>Who Rules</u> , pp. 23, 24-30.

Week XI Nov 4-7	Lecture: Non- Electoral Politics	<u>The Declaration of Independence</u> (First Half)
	Lecture: The Declaration of Independence.	Exercise: Alabama Literacy Test
	Discussion: The Declaration and non-electoral politics.	<u>Who Rules?</u> pp. 67- 69.
XII Nov 11-14	Movie: "In Order to Change"	<u>The Declaration of Independence</u> (Second Half)
	Movie: "Out of the Home and into the House"	<u>Who Rules?</u> pp. 41-43
	Discussion: Lobbying, Organizing, and Pressure Politics	Exer.: 5 page paper on political philosophy due November 14
		Lobbying, campaign or voter registration project Due on Nov. 21

XIII
Nov 18-21

Lecture: Alinsky organizing

Rules for Radicals
(First half)

Movie: "Too Flawed to Fix:
Illinois Death Penalty"

Discussion: Non-violent
Non-electoral Strategies

Lobbying, campaign
or voter registration
materials turned in
Nov. 21

XIV
Nov 25-28

Movie: "Columbia Revolt"

Rules for Radicals
(Second Half)

Nov. 27-28, Thanksgiving Holiday

XV
Dec 2-5

Movie: "The Battle of Algiers" Study for Final

Final Review Lecture

Final Review Discussion

Final Exam

Friday, Dec. 12, 1-3 p.m.