

Political Science 190: The Scope of Political Science

This course is designed to introduce you to different ways of understanding politics and its relationship to human life as a whole. More specifically, it encourages you to think both imaginatively and rigorously about the legal-institutional, socio-economic, and cultural-psychological dimensions of political life. You will learn that the scope of politics includes subjects treated separately in the disciplines of history, sociology, economics, anthropology and psychology, and thus come to appreciate why Aristotle long ago described political science as the “most comprehensive master science”.

Lectures will normally take place on Tuesday and Thursday of each week. Friday sessions will usually be devoted to discussions of the readings and lectures and will be led by Clifford Deaton and Anika Bishka, the Teaching Assistants assigned to this course. The required readings for this course have been assembled in packets that should be purchased, and will be distributed, during the first week of class. Many of the readings are quite challenging, and understanding them will require serious and sustained effort on your part. The lectures will cover some, but not all, of the readings. Additional material not in the readings may also be covered in the lectures. Thus you will have to attend the lectures and read the material in your packets in order to do well in this course.

Brief outlines of the lectures can be found at the “course information” link on Blackboard. They are *not* intended, and will *not* serve, as a substitute for attending the lectures. They are merely designed to help you organize the notes you take on those lectures.

You will also have to make use of the Friday discussion sections to ask questions you may have about the readings and the lectures. These sessions will give you the opportunity to delve more deeply into issues raised in the course than is possible during the lectures. You will also be able to explore those issues during each of three general (Tuesday or Thursday) review sessions that follow each of the three substantive sections of the course.

All students will be required to write three short (five-to-seven double-spaced typed pages) papers on topics that will be announced well before the dates on which they are due. The due dates for the first two papers will fall on the Friday immediately following the review session for each of the first two substantive sections of the course. The third and final paper will be due on Tuesday of finals week. (The likely due dates are October 2, October 30, and December 8, but these dates are subject to change.) You will not be adequately prepared to write these papers unless you attend class and complete all of the required reading. The papers will be graded by Ms. Bishka and Mr. Deaton under the supervision of the Professor Balbus. Papers turned in late will (in the absence of a legitimate, compelling excuse) have their grade lowered one letter grade for each day they are late. Attendance and participation in discussion sections will be evaluated by your Teaching Assistant and will count for roughly 10% of your grade in the course.

I. Introduction: Politics as a Contested Term

Required: Picture Packet

II. Law and Institutions

Lecture 1: Law and the Rule of Law

Required: Ingram, *What is Law?*, pp. 1-4; *Law and Morality*, pp. 16-24; 28-49.

Lecture 2: The Separation of Powers (with Checks and Balances)

Required: Ingram, *Constitutional Law*, pp. 50-55; Montesquieu, *The Spirit of the Laws*, Book 11, chapters 3-6, pp. 200-213; James Madison, *Federalist Papers* 47, 48, 49, 51, pp. 234-48; 251-55; Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, Book II, chapters 1-2, pp. 59-61.

Lecture 3: Judicial Review

Required: Ingram, “The Power of Judicial Review Within the American Context”, pp. 56-72; Hamilton, *Federalist* 78, pp.377-83; Robert Yates, *Letters of Brutus* xi, xii, xv, pp. 501-512; 524-29.

Lecture 4: Conceptions of Democracy: “Thin” versus “Thick”

Required: Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, Book III, Chapter XV, “On Deputies or Representatives”, pp.101-104; Robert A. Dahl, *Polyarchy*, pp.1-9; Joseph Schumpeter, “Another Theory of Democracy”, pp. 269-73; 282-83; Benjamin Barber, *Strong Democracy*, pp.xi-xvi; 3-25; 150-55

Lecture 5: The Concept (and Reality?) of Representation

Required, Hanna Pitkin, “The Mandate-Independent Controversy”, in *The Concept of Representation*, pp. 144-167; Kenneth Prewitt and Heinz Eulau, “Political Matrix and Political Representation”, pp. 127-47.

Lecture 6: Political Parties

Required: Madison, *Federalist Paper* 10, pp. 40-46; E.E. Schattschneider, *Party Government*, pp. 65-93; Lisa Disch, *The Tyranny of the Two-Party System*; pp.4-14; 127-140.

Lecture 7: Elections

Required: V.O. Key, jr., *The Responsible Electorate*, pp. 1-8; Forward by Arthur Maas, vii-xv; pp. 149-51; Thomas E. Patterson, “The Miscast Institution”, in *Out of Order*, pp. 28-42; Walter Dean Burnham, “The Changing Shape of the American Political Universe”, pp. 7-28.

Lecture 8: Civil Society

Required: Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, Volume I, Chapter XII, pp. 216-226; Volume II, Chapters V-VII, pp. 106-119; Robert D. Putnam, “Bowling Alone: America’s Declining Social Capital”, pp. 1-9; John Ehrenberg, *Civil Society: The Critical History of an Idea*, pp. 233-250.

Review Session on Law and Institutions

III. Markets and Power

Lecture 9: Human Nature and the Market

Required: Adam Smith, *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, pp.25-30; Karl Polanyi, *The Great Transformation*, pp. 33-76.

Lecture 10: Freedom and the Market

Required: Rose and Milton Friedman, “The Power of the Market”, pp.9-37; Karl Marx, “Estranged Labour”, in Robert C. Tucker, ed., *The Marx-Engels Reader*, pp. 70-81.

Lecture 11: Justice and the Market

Required: Friedrich A. Hayek, “Equality, Value, and Merit”, pp. 80-99; John Rawls, *A Theory of Justice*, pp. 60-65, 75-80; 100-108; 534-541.

Lecture 12: Democracy and the Market I: Corporations and the State

Required: Charles Lindblom, *Politics and Markets*, pp. 161-200.

Lecture 13: Democracy and the Market II: Corporate Governance

Required: Doug Henwood, “Governance”, in *Wall Street*, pp. 246-94; Robert A. Dahl, “The Corporate Leviathan”, in *After The Revolution?*, pp. 96-115.

Lecture 14: Democracy and the Market III: Globalization and Governance

Required: David Held and Anthony McGrew, *Globalization/Anti-Globalization*, pp. 38-59; 62-74; Jackie Smith, "Globalizing Resistance: The Battle of Seattle and the Future of Social Movements", in Jackie Smith and Hank Johnston, *Globalization and Resistance* (2002), pp. 207-222.

Lecture 15: The Concept of Power I: The Three Faces of "Negative" Power

Required: Steven Lukes, *Power: A Radical View*, pp. 9-57.

Lecture 16: The Concept of Power II: "Positive" Power: Normalization versus Communication

Required: Michel Foucault, "The Means of Correct Training", in *Discipline and Punish*, pp. 170-94; Hannah Arendt, "Communicative Power", pp. 59-74.

Review Session on Markets and Power

IV. Culture and Identity

Lecture 17: What is (a) Culture?

Required: Clifford Geertz, "Thick Description: Toward an Interpretative Theory of Culture", pp.3-30, in *The Interpretation of Cultures*, 1973; Marvin Harris, "The Origin of the Sacred Cow" and "A 'Beef' with Sahlins", pp. 248-57, in Harris, *Cultural Materialism*, 1979.

Lecture 18: Beyond Ethnocentrism and Relativism?

Required: Peter Winch, "Understanding a Primitive Society"; pp.159-87; I. C. Jarvie, "Understanding and Explanation in Sociology and Social Anthropology", pp. 189-204; Peter Winch, "Comment", pp. 207-214, all in Fred R. Dallmayr and Thomas A. McCarthy, *Understanding and Social Inquiry*, 1977

Lecture 19: Modernity

Required: Anthony Giddens, "The Contours of High Modernity", pp.10-34, in Giddens, *Modernity and Self-Identity*, 1991; Zygmunt Bauman, "Modernity, or Deconstructing Mortality", pp. 129-160, in *Mortality, Immortality and Other Life Strategies*, 1992.

Lecture 20: Modernity and Identity

Required: Charles Taylor, "The Politics of Recognition", pp. 75-106, in Taylor, *Multiculturalism and the Politics of Recognition*, 1992; Joan W. Scott, "Multiculturalism and the Politics of Identity", pp. 3-11, in John Rajchman, *The Identity in Question*, 1995; Todd Gitlin, "The Fate of the Commons", pp. 223-37, in *The Twilight of Common Dreams*.

Lecture 21: Gender Identity

Required: Carol Gilligan, "Women's Place in Man's Life Cycle", pp. 5-23, in *In a Different Voice*, 1982; Nancy Fraser and Linda J. Nicholson, "Social Criticism Without Philosophy: An Encounter Between Feminism and Postmodernism", pp. 26-35; Susan Bordo, "Feminism, Post-Modernism, and Gender-Scepticism", pp. 133-142 and 149-153, both in Nicholson, ed., *Feminism/Postmodernism*, 1990

Lecture 22: Racial Identity

Required: W.E.B. DuBois, "Of Our Spiritual Strivings", pp. 37-44, in *The Souls of Black Folk*, 1903; Anthony Appiah, "The Uncompleted Argument: DuBois and the Illusion of Race", pp. 21-36, in Henry Louis Gates, Jr., ed., "Race", *Writing and Difference*, 1986; Eric Lott, *Love and Theft*, pp. 3-7; 15-20; 112-122; 138-50.

Lecture 23: National Identity

Required: Anthony D. Smith, "Social Construction and Ethnic Genealogy", pp. 52-77, in Smith, *The Nation in History*, 2000; Michael Ignatief, "Benign Nationalism?: The Possibilities of the Civic Ideal" and Robert Fine, "Benign Nationalism?: The Limits of the Civic Ideal", pp. 141-161, in Edward Mortimer, ed., *People, Nation and State*, 1999; Anatol Lieven, "The Threat to American Hegemony", pp. 11-18, in Lieven, *America, Right or Wrong: An Anatomy of American Nationalism*, 2004.

Lecture 24: Religious Identity

Required: Pippa Norris and Ronald Inglehart, *Sacred and Secular*, pp. 3-27; Roger Finke, "An Unsecular America", pp. 145-165, in Steve Bruce, ed., *Religion and Modernization*, 1992; Richard T. Antoun, *Understanding Fundamentalism*, pp. 153-161.

Review Session on Culture and Identity

Lecturer

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Teaching Assistants

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