

POLITICAL SCIENCE 200: Introduction to Political Science and Its Methods

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This course is intended as an introduction to basic research methods in Political Science. It will begin with a look at the discipline itself and then finish with a strong look at Political Science research methods. Two books have been ordered for the class and are available at the East Side Student Center: Katznelson and Milner, *Political Science: State of the Discipline*, and Neil Salkind, *Exploring Research*.

There will be three examinations in the course and will be announced at an appropriate time. Students will also need to write one paper and do a number of exercises.

The weekly schedule and topics is as follows:

Week 1. Introduction

Read K&M, pp. 1-32

Week 2. Comparative Politics

Read K&M 630-659 and 147-171

Week 3. Rational Choice

Read K&M 660-692 and 755-783

Week 4. Institutions

Read K&M 313-341

Week 5. People and Politics I

Read K&M 433-461 and 462-487

Week 6. People and Politics II

Read K&M 488-510 and 511-541

Week 7. Introduction to Research

Read Salkind Chapters 1 and 2

Week 8. Research Methods I

Read Salkind Chapters 3 and 4

Week 9. Research Methods II

Read Salkind Chapters 5 and 6

Week 10. Research Methods III

Read Salkind Chapters 7 and 8

Week 11. Research Methods IV

Read Salkind Chapter 9

Week 12. Research Methods V

Read Salkind Chapter 10

Week 13. Research Methods VI

Read Salkind Chapters 11-12

Week 14. Research Methods VII

Read Salkind Chapters 13-14

Week 15. Conclusions