Politics deals with relations among people; therefore it is inevitably linked with psychology which probes how humans think, feel, and behave in various settings. Political psychologists employ diverse theories and research tools to explain why political elites and mass publics think and act as they do and how these thoughts and actions shape the course of politics.

We will begin our study of Political Psychology with an overview that maps out the terrain that political psychology covers. To explore that terrain, we will concentrate on several major areas. These include the reasoning processes that come into play when human beings try to make sense of their political world and make decisions. We will study the many emotions that are an inseparable part of human reasoning. Reasoning and feeling are affected by differences in personalities and cultural environments. Therefore we will focus on the political impact of leaders' personality traits and on various cultural factors that influence people's behaviors. We will conclude by discussing the ugly consequences of prejudices and hatreds that lead to socially damaging behaviors and policies designed to diminish inter-group conflicts, acts of brutality and wars.

The books listed below are required reading for this course; please buy them.

Required readings also include a few chapters from Kristen Renwick Monroe, ed. *Political Psychology*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum, 2002. Copies will be made available.

EXAMINATIONS AND REPORTS
Examinations will be based on lectures and assigned readings. Since lecture topics differ from readings, regular class attendance is essential to pass the course. Three open-book examinations will test what you have learned in the course. They will take place on February 14th, March 20th and May 1st and will count for 60 percent of your grade. Class attendance and participation will count for 10 percent of your grade.

Your report, which will be described in detail in class, counts for 30 percent of your grade. It should analyze a contemporary or historical situation from a political psychology perspective (e.g., terrorist organizations, political leader profiles, ethnic cleansing, symbolic politics, political attitude formation, the abortion conflicts etc.) A brief outline of your report that indicates how you will present it in class is due on March 18th. The report should be 3000 to 4000 words in length. It must be submitted no later than the start of class on April 1st. Plan on submitting your report before the deadline because LATE REPORTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. There are no exceptions to that rule.
**Tentative Time Schedule and Reading Assignments**

Readings are listed on a weekly basis. Please complete them by the listed due date so that you can contribute effectively to class discussions. Lectures will be based on the assumption that you are familiar with the information presented in the required readings.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Topic and Assignment</th>
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| Jan. 15  | 1. Introduction to the field of political psychology; course prospectus  
Read: Jost pp. 1-32, 108-134, Alford 6-14 |
| Jan 22   | 2. Political learning, cognitive styles, attitudes, and belief systems  
Read: Jost 177-240; Alford 196-212 |
| Jan. 29  | 3. The etiology of decision-making  
Read: Jost 135-162; 241-270; 432-466 |
| Feb. 5   | 4. Feelings and political judgment: affective intelligence, ambition, bigotry  
Read: Jost 163-176; Alford 56-101, 172-195 |
| Feb. 12  | 5. Feelings and political behavior: aggression, fear, empathy  
Read: Alford 15-33, 131-171  
Exam: Feb. 14th |
| Feb. 19  | 6. Measurement theories and methods in political psychology  
Read: Monroe 271-312; Jost 467-476; Alford 34-55 |
| Feb. 26  | 7. Personality and politics; mass psychology and authoritarianism  
Read: Jost 33-107 |
| Mar 4    | 8. The political relevance of culture and personality; cross-cultural issues  
Read: Renshon 3-86 |
| Mar 11   | 9. The dilemmas of multiculturalism; dealing with minorities, racism  
Read: Renshon 89-107, 241-310, Jost 333-378 |
| Mar 18   | 10. Prejudice, diversity, and social dominance theories  
Read: Jost 271-332, Alford 102-130 & submit report outline  
Exam: March 20th |
| Apr 1    | 11. Submit Report. Psychological insights drawn from political events: presentation of selected reports |
| Apr 8    | 12. Psychological insights drawn from political events: presentation of selected reports  
Read: Renshon 159-237 |
| Apr 15   | 13. Modern genocides and ethnic cleansings  
Read: Chirot 1-50, 95-148 |
| Apr 22   | 14. The psychological foundations of holocausts and terrorism  
Read: Jost 379-431; Chirot 51-94 |
| Apr 29   | 15. Strategies for conflict resolution: Successes and failures  
Read: Chirot 149-218; Renshon 108-155  
Exam: May 1st |

Instructor's Office: 1110 BSB (6-3108); dgraber@uic.edu. Office hours by appointment. Make-ups for missed exams will be given at the time set aside for the final examination.