

## 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 Shannon Nelson and Clifford Deaton, 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. 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, November 2, and December 11, 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. Nelson 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.

### Lecturer

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Office Hours: Tuesday 2-4 and by appointment

### Teaching Assistants

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Office Hours: Thursday 2:30-3:30; Friday 11:00-12:00

## **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. 106-120; 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**