

PSCI 2012: INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

TA: Elise Pizzi
Recitations 105 & 111
Spring 2015

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Office Hours: M 11-12, W 9-10 in Chem 370

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Simulation: 16 Feb
Short Paper: 16 Feb
Midterms: 25 Feb & 15 April
Research Paper: 22 April
Final Exam: 3 May 7:30-10PM

The goals of this course are: 1) be more familiar with world affairs and be able to follow current events more knowledgeably, (2) be able to identify and engage themselves in solving global political and economic problems, and (3) better understand what is unique about the US political system.

Recitations serve to deepen your understanding of the course material presented in the lecture and assigned readings. You are encouraged to ask questions and bring up topics from the course materials and current events.

This syllabus serves as a guide to recitation expectations only and should be considered in conjunction with the main course syllabus. All relevant policies are explained in full on the main course syllabus.

ASSESSMENT

READING NOTES. To help you process and remember information, you will be required to take notes on the assigned reading for class. These should provide sufficient detail for you to reconstruct the argument and case examples used in each chapter, article, or book. You should also include your reaction to the paper and any questions that the paper raises for you (e.g. "this makes no sense in this case..." or "how does this theory apply to X case?"). The goal here is to encourage active learning, make you an active thinker, and help you prepare to participate in class discussions.

Your notes are your admission ticket to class each day. If you don't have notes, you will be asked to miss class. If you take notes on the computer, please email me your notes at least one hour before recitation on the day of class. If you take notes by hand, you can show me your notes at the beginning of class and turn them in at the end. These are graded on a 10 point scale. I will drop your worst grade, including a missed assignment.

If you miss class, you can still write and receive credit for the reading notes. Notes must be in before class, even if you miss class. I will not accept late notes.

You do not have to present notes to me on the review days (23 Feb, 13 April, and 27 April). I still expect reading notes on the day simulation day.

ATTENDANCE. You earn points of attendance each day. You can miss two days without penalty, but after that you will lose points. I do not need to see doctor's notes or other forms of excuse for absences. If you miss class, you miss the content for the day, which cannot be made up. The two absences are designed to cover illness, religious holidays, doctor's appointments, and other legitimate reasons to miss class. Use them wisely. **REMEMBER: NO NOTES, NO ATTENDANCE FOR THE DAY.**

PARTICIPATION. Class will be more interesting if you are engaged and share questions and opinions. I expect you to participate every day.

COMMUNICATION:

I will communicate with you outside of class primarily through email. Please make sure to check your Colorado.edu email regularly as I will send reminders and recitation assignments over email. You will be responsible for the information sent out over email.

If you have any questions, **PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK!!!** If you encounter difficulties with the course material or have any personal issues that may impact your studies, please come to me sooner rather than later so that I can do whatever is possible to help.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO POLICIES

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with disabilities should ask for “reasonable and timely” accommodations. You are welcomed to do so in the first two weeks of the semester either during my office hours or after class. These accommodations can be extended if you are a student with a disability and are registered with the Office of Services to Disabled Students. Please refer to the web link www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices or contact 303-492-8671, Willard 322 for information. University regulations on this issue will be strictly observed. If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

Cheating or plagiarizing will be treated according to the University regulations which will be strictly observed. All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Students are strongly advised to familiarize themselves with the University of Colorado’s Code for Academic Honesty at www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Students in this situation can ask for “reasonable and timely” accommodations. Please review the syllabus closely and try to find out whether you have time conflicts with any of the assignments. I encourage you to do so in the first two weeks of the semester and inform me about your concerns either during my office hours or after class. Full details can be found at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See polices at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code.

DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.