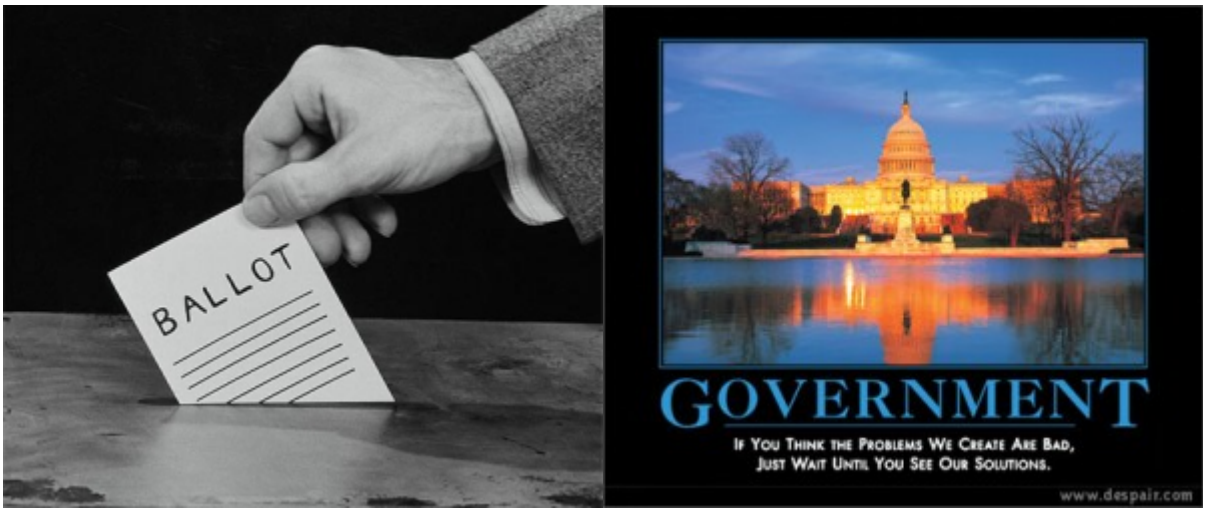

POS 3272-0M01 Civic Engagement
Course Syllabus

Dr. Terri Susan Fine
Spring 2015
Three Credit Hours
6-8:50pm Mondays CB1-0319
(See schedule for class meeting dates)

Instructor Contact

Instructor	Dr. Terri Susan Fine Professor of Political Science Associate Director, Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government
Office	Phillips Hall 302K Second office: Lou Frey Institute (Orlando Tech Center, 12443 Research Parkway, 400 Building, Suite 406)
Office Hours	Monday 1-5pm and by appointment (Phillips Hall 302K) By appointment (Lou Frey Institute) EXCEPT: Week of January 19 (University/State Holiday) Week of March 9 (Spring Break)

	Note: Appointments available in the political science department, at the Lou Frey Institute in the Research Park (easy parking and no parking permit needed). The #9 UCF Shuttle will take you there (Stop #2 —Florida Institute of Government stop), or we can meet by telephone. **Appointments are readily available and flexible—feel free to meet with me as the need arises.**
Phone	407-823-2081 (Political Science Department) 407-823-3636 (Lou Frey Institute)
Course mail	Available through the "inbox" function on the course home page (upper right). Contacting me through the course insures no SPAM and faster responses.
Personal e-mail	terri.fine@ucf.edu **Note:** E-mail to this personal account is to be used for emergencies only (i.e. if you have no Internet access); All regular communication must go through the course "inbox" function. Non-emergency e-mail submitted to my personal account will not receive a response.
Course page	Available through Webcourses2@ucf at: https://webcourses2c.instructure.com

Course Description: Formal and informal civic engagement methods in the United States across levels of government, sectors of society, and modes of interaction.

Course Objectives:

This course examines civic engagement in the United States across levels of government, sectors of society, and modes of interaction. Students are encouraged to critically reflect on citizens' responsibilities in a democracy in their various roles across societal spheres.

Civic engagement is meant here as "people participating together for deliberation and collective action within an array of interests, institutions and networks, developing civic identity, and involving people in governance processes" (Cooper, 2005, 534; Cooper, Bryer, and Meek, 2006, 76). Forms and intensities of individual and collective engagement can vary across levels of government, from school board and municipal government to the federal government, as well as across sectors of society, including homeowner or tenant associations, worker unions, voluntary associations, and political parties. Engagement takes on different shapes according to mode of interaction, such as face to face, text-based, and cyber interactions, as well as the parties to an interaction, including citizen-to-citizen, citizen-to-government, citizen-to-interest group, and interest group-to-government.

Students will have the opportunity to critically examine different forms of civic engagement, observe those forms in action, and to experience those forms through civic activity.

Students will also be required, as part of the service learning course component, to enroll in poll worker training and serve as a poll worker in Orange or Seminole County, Florida on November 2, 2010. Students who are unable to complete the service learning requirement to serve as a poll worker will be offered reasonable alternatives.

Course Texts:

Dalton, Russell. J. 2009. *The Good Citizen: How A Younger Generation is Reshaping American Politics*, Washington, DC: CQ Press. ISBN: 978-1-60426-556-9.

Graham, Senator Bob with Chris Hand. 2009. *America, The Owner's Manual: Making Government Work for You*, Washington, DC: CQ Press. ISBN: 978-1-60426-476-0.

Other materials as assigned (see course schedule)

Academic Honesty/Student Code of Conduct:

Plagiarism and cheating of any kind on an examination or assignment will result in an F **for the course** and will be subject to referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information (Available at: http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/).

Disability Statement:

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Assessment, Assessment Rubric and Grading:

The course will be assessed using a combination of assessment types:

Assessment Type	**Course Objectives Met**	**Component of Final Grade**
Midterm Examination	Demonstrate how civic engagement affects and is affected by political and electoral institutions.	15%
Class discussion and participation	Critique the role that mass and elite level factors play in mass-level civic engagement	15%
Group project and presentation	Analyze civic engagement in the United States	10%

Modules	Critique the role that government plays in mass-level civic engagement	25%
Final paper	Evaluate how civic engagement affects and is affected by political and electoral institutions.	15%
Chapter quizzes	Identify how civic engagement affects and is affected by political, governmental and non-governmental institutions and organizations	20%

Examination and Course Policies:

All examinations must be taken and the research paper must be submitted. Failure to take any examination or submit the final paper without a valid, documented medical or other reasonable excuse will automatically result in an F *for the course*. Makeup examinations for excused absences will be arranged with the instructor.

Attendance will be taken regularly. One missed class period is allowed without penalty. Unreasonably late arrival and early departure count as absences; this means that arriving late for class or leaving before class is dismissed are considered absences. Partial credit is not given for partial attendance on any given day. It is best to "save" your absence as you may find that emergencies arise after you have used your allowed absence for non-emergency reasons.

All work must be made up for excused absences; alternative assignments will be provided in order to make up for excused absences beyond the allowed absence. Alternative assignments may be completed provided that the instructor is notified no later than 48 hours before a missed class day or assignment deadline. The 48 hour requirement does not apply if it can be documented that notifying the instructor within the 48 hour window was impossible.
One full letter grade will be taken for each unexcused class. In other words, two unexcused absences after the first one will calculate to a two full letter grade (i.e. B to D) penalty to the final grade. Attendance will be taken beginning Monday January 26.

Students are responsible for any materials covered in class. A short meeting with the instructor to review any announcements or questions is encouraged for those whose absences are excused; such an option is not available for students with unexcused absences. Students who miss class for any reason are encouraged to meet with at least two other students to get notes and other needed materials.

Plus/Minus Grading:

This course will be graded using plus/minus grading. Your recorded final grade will be one of the following: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F. There will be no A+, F+ or F-.
Your transcript will reflect the calculation of grade points accordingly:

Grade	**Grade Points**	**Grade**	**Grade Points**
A	4.00	C	2.00
A-	3.75	C-	1.75
B+	3.25	D+	1.25
B	3.00	D	1.00

B-	2.75	D-	0.75
C+	2.25	F	0.00

Changes in the syllabus and/or schedule may be made at any time during the term. A revised syllabus may be issued at my discretion. Readings and assignments should be completed for the day listed.

Please see me if you have any problems about the reading load, tips on getting the most from your reading, or the course in general. My office hours are listed above.

Schedule

Class Week	Assigned Reading	Assignments/Notes/Announcements
January 12-January 16 **Class Meeting**	No Assigned Reading Course Introduction Civic Engagement Case Study: Race Relations, White Privilege, and the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.	Syllabus Quiz due 1/16 11pm Class Activity: Civic Engagement Interviewing **Note: The syllabus quiz will not count toward your final grade. However, all students must complete the Syllabus Quiz in order to fulfill federal financial aid requirements.**
January 19-January 23 **No Class Meeting**	Dalton Chapter 1 Dalton Chapter 2 Dalton Chapter 3	Dalton Chapter 1 quiz due 1/23 11pm Dalton Chapter 2 quiz due 1/23 11pm Dalton Chapter 3 quiz due 1/23 11pm Note: UCF is closed Monday, January 19 for the federal Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday
January 26-January 30 **Class Meeting**	Eleanor Roosevelt, "Good Citizenship: The Purpose of Education", 1930 Available at: http://www.gwu.edu/~erpapers/documents/	Class Activity: Education and Civic Engagement
February 2-February 6	Dalton Chapter 4 Dalton Chapter 5 Dalton Chapter 6 Dalton Chapter 7	Dalton Chapter 4 quiz due 2/6 11pm Dalton Chapter 5 quiz due 2/6 11pm Dalton Chapter 6 quiz due 2/6 11pm Dalton Chapter 7 quiz due 2/6 11pm

No Class Meeting		Module: Civic Engagement Interview and Reflection due 2/6 11pm
February 9-February 13 **Class Meeting**	Executive Order 13490, "Ethics Commitments by Executive Branch Personnel", 2009. Available at: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2009-01-26/pdf/E9-1719.pdf Federalist Paper #10, James Madison, 1787 Available at: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed10.asp	Class Activity: Evaluating Government Efforts to Restore Public Trust
February 16-February 20 **No Class Meeting**	Dalton Chapter 8 Dalton Chapter 9 Dalton Epilogue	Dalton Chapter 8 quiz due 2/20 11pm Dalton Chapter 9 quiz due 2/20 11pm Module: Advocacy Case Study due 2/20 11pm
February 23-February 27 **Class Meeting**	U.S. Senator Barack Obama, 2008 Presidential Election Address Available at: http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/Vote2008/story?id=6181477	Class Activity: Citizenship Issues
March 2-March 6 **Class Meeting**	No assigned reading	Midterm Examination Review Midterm Examination-all readings, lectures and class activities January 12-February 27
March 9-March 13		***Enjoy your spring break!***
March 16-March 20 **Class Meeting**	Governor Bob Graham, "Lessons on Citizenship", 2010. Available on course home page "Child Immigration Crisis"	Class Activity: Honduran Child Immigration Crisis

	Available at: http://www.cbsnews.com/pictures/crisis-in-child-immigration/ "Children at the Border" Available at: http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/07/15/us/questions-about-the-border-kids.html?_r=0 "Humanitarian crisis at border defies right's platitudes about immigration", Mary Sanchez, June 13, 2014 Available at: http://www.kansascity.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/mary-sanchez/article547777/Humanitarian-crisis-at-border-defies-right%E2%80%99s-platitudes-about-immigration.html	
March 23-March 27 **No Class Meeting**	Graham and Hand Prologue Graham and Hand Introduction Graham and Hand Chapter 1 Graham and Hand Chapter 2 Graham and Hand Chapter 3	Graham and Hand Chapter 1 quiz due 3/27 11pm Graham and Hand Chapter 2 quiz due 3/27 11pm Graham and Hand Chapter 3 quiz due 3/27 11pm March 24, 2015 11:59pm *University-wide Withdrawal Deadline*
March 30-April 3 **Class Meeting**	Michael Dippy, 2010 Central Floridian of the Year Available at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HNHUY85HEAI) Beth Davalos, 2012 Central Floridian of the Year Runner Up Available at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2z9qBiPMmhs	Class Activity: Top Chef Civic Engagement Overview
April 6-April 10 **No Class Meeting**	Graham and Hand Chapter 4 Graham and Hand Chapter 5 Graham and Hand Chapter 6 Graham and Hand Chapter 7	Graham and Hand Chapter 4 quiz due 4/10 11pm Graham and Hand Chapter 5 quiz due 4/10 11pm Graham and Hand Chapter 6 quiz due 4/10 11pm Graham and Hand Chapter 7 quiz due 4/10 11pm

		Module: Service Learning Reflection Due 4/10 11pm
April 13- April 17 **Class Meeting**	Nicholas Katzenbach, "Protest, Politics and the First Amendment", *Tulane Law Review*, April 1970 Martin Luther King, Jr. "The Right to Protest for Right", Memphis, TN, April 3, 1968. Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pE4obuZEge8	Class Activity: First Amendment U.S. Supreme Court Simulation
April 20- April 24 **No Class Meeting**	Graham and Hand Chapter 8 Graham and Hand Chapter 9 Graham and Hand Chapter 10	Graham and Hand Chapter 8 quiz due 4/24 11pm Graham and Hand Chapter 9 quiz due 4/24 11pm Graham and Hand Chapter 10 quiz due 4/24 11pm
April 27- May 1	No Assigned Reading "Top Chef Civics" Group Presentations	**Final Paper Due 11pm May 1**

Determining Final Grades

Final grades are determined through the use of the following letter grades: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F.
Grades of A+, F+ and F- are not used.
Numerical grades compute into letter grades as follows:

Grade	Score Range
A	95 and up
A-	90-94
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	59 and below

Numerical grades will be determined for all papers and examinations, and then converted to letter grades as noted above. Once letter grades have been determined for all assessments, letter grades are associated with the following scale:

Grade	Associated Score
A	11
A-	10
B+	9
B	8
B-	7
C+	6
C	5
C-	4
D+	3
D	2
D-	1
F	0

Using this scale, weights are assigned based on the syllabus. All of your scores are then determined and weighted accordingly. This overall score is then divided by 100 and applied to the 0-11/A-F grading scale above. **Note:** Grades are not rounded.

Sample Grade Calculation:

Assessment Type	Assessment Type Grade	Component of Final Grade	Calculation	Total Points
Midterm Examination	B	15%	8x1.5	12
Class discussion and participation	A	15%	11x1.5	16.5
Group project and presentation	A-	10%	10x1	10

Modules	B+	25%	9x2.5	22.5
Final paper	C	15%	5x1.5	7.5
Chapter quizzes	B-	20%	7x2	14

Total points earned: 82.5/10=8.25
Final grade: B (corresponds to 8 points)