Syllabus

POS 4206 Political Psychology

Dr. Terri Susan Fine
Fall 2016

Section	Location	Credit Hours
0W59	World Wide Web	3

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 1:30-5:30pm and by appointment (Phillips Hall 302K) Appointment only (Lou Frey Institute) Note: Appointments available in the political science department on the main campus or at my Lou Frey Institute office 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 Blackboard/Canvas 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

This course introduces various aspects of political psychology giving special emphasis to the American political experience. The way that the public views its political world is a function of how that political world is presented to it. The cultural dynamics that frame the political experience are integral to developing an understanding of how the public sees its role in the political process. It is also important that one understands how that framework influences citizen participation in that process.

The course will first look at various aspects of political psychology including attitudes and behavior, information processing, and political decision making. How these issues function within the context of the welfare controversy will then be investigated. In so doing, one can better understand how political psychology affects the public reaction to areas of policy controversy, particularly those that cue competing values.

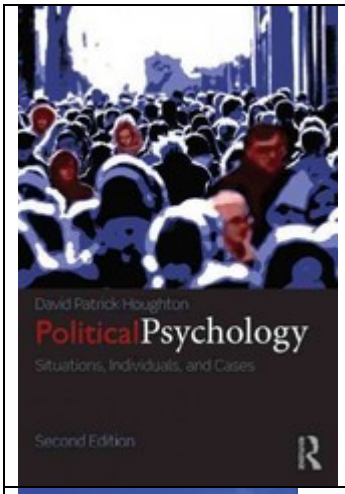
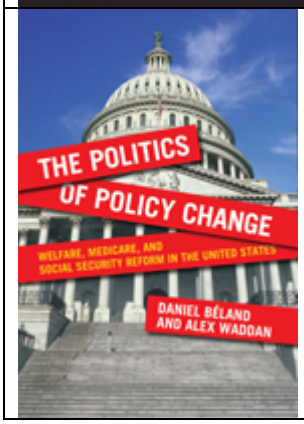
Course Goals: The primary goals of this course are to:

a) Understand the theoretical orientation framing the relationship between psychology and politics
b) Explain mass-level political participation through the lens of political psychology
c) Explain elite behavior through the lens of political psychology
d) Understand how controversial public policies, and the processes that form them, are impacted by political psychology

Course Objectives: At the end of this course, you will be able to:

a) Develop approaches to analyzing the relationship between psychology and politics
b) Critique the role that psychology plays in mass-level participation and elite behavior.
c) Evaluate how political psychology affects and is affected by political and electoral institutions.
d) Describe how political psychology impacts policy making.

Course Texts

	*Political Psychology: Situations, Individuals and Cases* by David Patrick Houghton, Second Edition, New York: Routledge Press. ISBN: 978-0-41583-382-0. **<u>Be certain to purchase this textbook only and not older or alternate editions.</u>**
	*The Politics of Policy Change: Welfare, Medicare and Social Security Reform in the United States* by Daniel Beland and Alex Waddan, Washington, DC: George Washington University Press. ISBN: 978-1-58901-884-6. **<u>Be certain to purchase this textbook only and not older or alternate editions.</u>**

Assessment

Grades will be based on several Internet Learning Modules, discussions, and quizzes. The entire course will be conducted on-line; there will be no on-campus meetings.

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Internet Learning Modules (8)	250 points each
Quizzes (12) **(Note: The syllabus quiz score is not factored into the overall quiz score or the final grade)**	125 points each
Discussions (5)	100 points each

All assignments are due on the day and time posted; late assignments may be submitted with prior arrangement with the instructor and submission of proper documentation explaining why submitting the assignment on time was not possible. The instructor must be notified within 48 hours of the missed assignment (unless doing so is impossible and the reason is documented) in order to be eligible to submit that assignment late.

Assignment Specifications

Assignment Type	**Specifications**
Chapter Quizzes	1.Chapter quizzes are open for one week before the deadline 2.Quizzes are due no later than 11pm on the due date 3.Two attempts are provided for each quiz; the higher of the two scores, whether the first or second attempt, will count toward your overall quiz grade (and not the average)
Discussions	1. All discussion submissions are due no later than 11pm on the due date 2. Discussions are completed in three parts. The first part is a two paragraph response to the question posted on the course discussion board. Each paragraph must include at least three substantial sentences. The response to the question on the course discussion board is called the "Initial Posting". The Initial Posting requires at least two cited quotes from the assigned course readings to be eligible for credit. 3. The second and third parts of the discussions are one paragraph (at least three substantial sentences per paragraph) responses to at least two other Initial Posting responses posted by your student colleagues in the class. These are called the "Response Postings". 4. A professional presentation is critically important. Five or more typographical errors for any full discussion (the Initial Posting and the two Response Postings) will result in no credit earned for that discussion.

	5. Discussion credit is earned (full credit for the discussion) or not earned (no credit for the discussion). 6. To earn discussion credit, complete the Initial Posting and the two Response Postings, cite and proofread as assigned, cohere to paragraph length requirements, and submit the discussion on time.
Internet Learning Modules	Rubrics are provided at the end of each module.

All assignments are due on the day and time posted; late assignments may be submitted with prior arrangement with the instructor and submission of documentation explaining why submitting the assignment on time was not possible. The instructor must be notified within 48 hours of the missed assignment (unless doing so is impossible and the reason is documented) in order to be eligible to submit that assignment late.

Assessment Rubric

Formative Assessment	**Course Objectives Met**
Internet Learning Modules	Analyze the relationship between psychology and politics in the United States Critique the role that psychology plays in mass-level participation, elite behavior and public policy Evaluate how political psychology affects and is affected by political and electoral institutions.
Quizzes	Understand how political psychology affects and is affected by political and electoral institutions.
Discussions	Analyze the relationship between psychology and politics in the United States Critique the role that psychology plays in mass-level participation, elite behavior and public policy Evaluate how political psychology affects and is affected by political and electoral institutions.

Recorded Final Grades

This course utilizes plus/minus grading. The 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-.

Grade	**Grade Points**	**Grade**	**Grade Points**
A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.75	C-	1.75
B+	3.25	D+	1.25
B	3.0	D	1.00
B-	2.75	D-	.75
C+	2.25	F	0

Reading Assignments

Please contact me if you have any problems with the course. 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.

Grading Procedures

Final grades are based on the overall accumulated points. Numerical grades compute into letter grades as follows:

Letter Grade	Accumulated Points
A	3600 and higher
A-	3400-3599
B+	3300-3399
B	3200-3299
B-	3100-3199
C+	3000-3199
C	2900-2999
C-	2800-2899
D+	2700-2799
D	2600-2699
D-	2500-2599
F	2499 and lower

University Policies

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.

POS 4206 Political Psychology
Fall 2016 Schedule

Please contact me if you have any concerns about the reading load, tips on getting the most from your reading, or the course in general.

DH is *Political Psychology: Situation, Individuals, and Cases* by David Patrick Houghton

BW is *The Politics of Policy Change: Welfare, Medicare, and Social Security Reform in the United States* by Daniel Beland and Alex Waddan

Quizzes, Discussions (both Initial and Response Postings) and Internet Learning Modules (ILM) are generally due on Fridays at 11pm on their assigned days.

Course Week	***Readings***	***Assignments***
August 22-August 26	No Assigned Reading	Syllabus Quiz due August 26 11pm **Note:** The syllabus quiz will not count toward your final grade. **All students must complete the Syllabus Quiz in order to fulfill federal financial aid requirements whether or not they are receiving federal financial aid.**
August 29-September 2	DH Chapter 1 DH Chapter 2	DH Quiz 1/2 due September 2 11pm ILM Political Psychology and the Media due September 2 11pm
September 5-September 9	DH Chapter 3 DH Chapter 4	DH Quiz 3/4 due September 9 11pm Discussion 1 Initial and Response Postings due September 9 11pm **Note: University Closed Monday September 5 for Labor Day** **No office hours Monday September 5**
September 12-September 16	DH Chapter 5 DH Chapter 6	DH Quiz 5/6 due September 16 11pm Discussion 2 Initial and Response Postings due September 16 11pm ILM Groupthink Case Study due September 16 11pm **No office hours Monday September 12; instructor attending international conference**

September 19-September 23	DH Chapter 7 DH Chapter 8	DH Quiz 7/8 due September 23 11pm ILM Political Psychobiography due September 23 11pm
September 26-September 30	DH Chapter 9 DH Chapter 10	DH Quiz 9/10 due September 30 11pm **No office hours Monday September 26; instructor attending a Florida Department of Education meeting**
October 3-October 7	DH Chapter 11 DH Chapter 12	DH Quiz 11/12 due October 7 11pm ILM Political Campaigns due October 7 11pm **No office hours Monday October 3;**
October 10-October 14	DH Chapter 13 DH Chapter 14	DH 13/14 Quiz due October 14 11pm ILM Genocide due October 14 11pm
October 17-October 21	No Assigned Reading	Discussion 3 Initial and Response Postings due October 21 11pm
October 24-October 28		ILM Symbolic Politics due October 28 11pm
October 31-November 4	DH Chapter 15 DH Chapter 16	DH 15/16 Quiz due November 4 11pm
November 7-November 11	BW Introduction BW Chapter 1	BW Introduction Quiz due November 12 11pm BW Chapter 1 Quiz due November 12 11pm Discussion 4 Initial and Response Postings due November 12 11pm **Note: The university is closed Friday, November 11, for Veterans Day. Consequently, the chapter quizzes and discussion will be due on Saturday 11/12 and not Friday 11/11 this week only.**
November 14-November 18	BW Chapter 2	BW Chapter 2 Quiz due November 18 11pm ILM Saenz v. Roe due November 18 11pm
November 21-November 25	No Assigned Reading	**Enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday** **Note: The university is closed Thursday, November 24 and Friday November 25 for Thanksgiving.**
November 28-December 2	BW Chapter 3 BW Conclusion	BW Chapter 3 Quiz due December 2 11pm Note: There is no quiz for BW Conclusion Discussion 5 Initial and Response Postings due December 2

		11pm
Wednesday December 7		ILM The Affordable Care Acts due December 7 11pm **NOTE THE DAY**