Syllabus and Schedule
POS 4622 Politics and Civil Rights

Dr. Terri Susan Fine

Spring 2017

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 Content Specialist, Florida Joint Center for Citizenship
Office	Main campus office: Phillips Hall 302K Second office: Lou Frey Institute (Orlando Tech Center, 12443 Research Parkway, 400 Building, Suite 406)
Office Hours	Tuesday 11:00am-3:00pm (main campus office) and by appointment (main campus or second office). Note: Appointments are available in the political science department and at the Lou Frey Institute in the Research Park (easy parking and no parking permit needed). The #9 UCF Shuttle will take you to the Lou Frey Institute (Stop #2 —Florida Institute of Government stop; the Florida Institute of Government is in the same building as the

	Lou Frey Institute), 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 (e.g. 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	https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1253924

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the politics of the civil rights experience in the United States since 1865. The course will focus on African-Americans and civil rights issues. The civil rights experience has been a long and difficult struggle in the United States. We will explore the nature of that struggle from several perspectives.

By the end of the course, students will be able to look at citizenship difficulties among African-Americans and how various aspects of the U.S. Constitution have served to define and redefine the nature and substance of citizenship. We will also explore the political nature of judicial decision making in the context of key U.S. Supreme Court cases as they apply to African-Americans. We will also examine key civil rights legislation and the role that key individuals, institutions and organizations play in mobilizing African-Americans to promote civil rights protection.

Political behavior and opinion will also be examined. We will look at black political behavior from the perspectives of voting, interest group mobilization, protest activities and opinion formation. The examination of elite black political behavior will address the role and impact that public officials play in the policy process in the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government. Attention will be given to black legislators and their efforts to promote a civil rights agenda while at the same time accommodating a predominantly white political environment. We will also look at issues such as reverse discrimination, majority-minority districting, and political party and campaign politics.

The entire course will be couched in the context of the impact of social and economic conditions on political issues. To that end, we will explore how African-Americans and whites differ in their economic and social resources and how those differences impact opportunities for securing political power.

Course Texts:

Black Politics in Conservative America by Marcus Pohlmann, Sloan Educational Publishing, ISBN 978-1597380126

The Civil Rights Movement (Revised Edition) by Bruce Dierenfield, Pearson Longman Press, ISBN 978-1405874359

U.S. Supreme Court case decisions:

Adarand Constructors, Inc. v. Pena (1995)
Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas (1954)
Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas (1955)
Dred Scott v. Sandford (1856)
Grutter v. Bollinger (2003)
Milliken v. Bradley (1974)
Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)
Richmond v. J.A. Croson Co. (1989)
Shaw v. Reno (1993)
Shelby County v. Holder (2013)
Smith v. Allwright (1944)
Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education (1971)
Sweatt v. Painter (1950)
University of California Regents v. Bakke (1978)

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 (11)	130 points each
(Note: The syllabus quiz score is not factored into the overall quiz score or the final grade)	
Discussions (6)	100 points each

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. a. 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. b. 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". c. Response postings are due one week after the initial 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; 100 points) or not earned (no credit for the discussion; 0 points). 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. It is the instructor's sole discretion as to whether or not an assignment extension will be provided.

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

Grading Procedures

Final grades are based on the overall accumulated points. Numerical grades compute into letter grades as follows. Note that the required number of points required allows missed work. For example, an A- requires earning 89% of available points.

Letter Grade	Accumulated Points
A	3700 and higher
A-	3600-3699
B+	3500-3599
B	3400-3499
B-	3300-3399
C+	3200-3299
C	3100-3199
C-	3000-3099
D+	2900-2999
D	2800-2899
D-	2700-2799
F	2699 and lower

Assessment Rubric

Formative Assessment	**Course Objectives Met**
Internet Learning	Analyze how African-Americans experience civil

Modules	rights issues in the U.S. governmental context Critique the role that civil rights issues play in mass-level participation, elite behavior and public policy Evaluate how civil rights issues affect and are affected by political and electoral institutions.
Discussions	Understand and reflect on how civil rights issues affect and are affected by political and electoral institutions.
Quizzes	Know how civil rights issues affect and are affected by political and electoral institutions.

The Golden Rule

Students must follow the University standards for personal and academic conduct as outlined in *The Golden Rule*. Students are apprised when they are accepted at the University that they must be aware of and follow these policies of conduct. *The Golden Rule* is on the UCF website.

Policy on Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Please make certain that all assignments are completed individually and for this class only. Violations of student academic behavior standards are outlined in *The Golden Rule*, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook. See http://www.ucf.edu/goldenrule/ for further details.

1. Cheating whereby non-permissible written, visual or oral assistance including that obtained from another student is utilized on examinations, course assignments or projects. The unauthorized possession or use of examination or course related material shall also constitute cheating.

2. Plagiarism whereby another's work is deliberately used or appropriated without any indication of the source thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own. Any student failing to properly credit ideas or materials taken from another has plagiarized.

3. A student who has assisted another in any of the aforementioned breach of standards shall be considered equally culpable.

Students with Disabilities

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.

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Spring 2017 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.

MP is *Black Politics in Conservative America*
BD is *The Civil Rights Movement*

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.

All assignments (quizzes, modules, discussions) are due at 11pm on their assigned days

Course Week	***Assigned Readings***	***Assignments***
January 9, 12am to January 13, 11pm	Course Syllabus	Syllabus Quiz due January 13 11pm **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 13, 11pm-January 20, 11pm	MP Chapter 1	MP Quiz 1 due January 20 11pm Discussion 1 initial posting due January 20 11pm
January 20 11pm-January 27 11pm	MP Chapter 2	MP Quiz 2 due January 27 11pm Discussion 1 response postings due January 27 11pm
January 27	MP Chapter 3	MP Quiz 3 due February 3 11pm

11pm- February 3 11pm	MP Chapter 4 MP Chapter 5	MP Quiz 4 due February 3 11pm MP Quiz 5 due February 3 11pm Discussion 2 initial and posting due February 3 11pm
February 3 11pm-February 10 11pm	No Assigned Reading	Dred Scott Module due February 10 11pm Discussion 2 response postings due February 10 11pm
February 10 11pm-February 17 11pm	BD Chapters 1-4	BD Chapters 1-4 Quiz due 11pm February 17 11pm Note: The entire quiz covers chapters 1-4 Equal Protection Clause Module due February 17 11pm Discussion 3 initial posting due February 17 11pm
February 17 11pm-February 24 11pm	No Assigned Reading	Brown v. Board of Education Module due February 24 11pm Discussion 3 response postings due February 24 11pm
February 24 11pm-March 3 11pm	No Assigned Reading	Implementing Brown v. Board of Education Module due March 3 11pm Discussion 4 initial posting due March 3 11pm
March 3 11pm-March 10 11pm	BD Chapters 5-10	BD Chapters 5-10 Quiz due March 10 11pm Note: The entire quiz covers chapters 5-10 Discussion 4 response postings due March 10 11pm
March 10 11pm-March 17 11pm	No Assigned Reading	Enjoy your spring break

March 17 11pm-March 24 11pm	No Assigned Reading	Non-Violent Social Change Module due March 24 11pm Discussion 5 initial posting due March 24 11pm
March 24 11pm-March 31 11pm	No Assigned Reading	Civil Disobedience Module due March 31 11pm Discussion 5 response postings due March 31 11pm
March 31 11pm-April 7 11pm	BD Chapters 11-13	BD Chapters 11-13 Quiz due April 7 11pm Note: The entire quiz covers chapters 11-13 Discussion 6 initial posting due April 7 11pm
April 7 11pm-April 14 11pm	MP Chapter 6 MP Chapter 7	MP Quiz 6 due April 14 11pm MP Quiz 7 due April 14 11pm Discussion 6 response postings due April 14 11pm Implementing the Civil Rights Act Module due April 14 11pm
April 14 11pm-April 21 11pm	MP Chapter 8	MP Quiz 8 due April 2111pm
Wednesday April 26		Congressional Black Caucus Module due April 26 11pm **NOTE THE DAY**