POS 3413-0W58: The American Presidency

Department of Political Science
College of Science, University of Central Florida

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor:	Dr. Daniel Marien	Term: Class Meeting	Spring 2019 Online
Phone: E-Mail:	407-823-0012 Daniel.Marien@ucf.edu		
GTA	Devyn Escalanti.		

OFFICE HOURS From 1/7 until 4/22 2019	OFFICE LOCATION	OFFICE PHONE NUMBER
Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	UCF Orlando Philips Hall, room 302N	407-823-0012

If you plan to visit me during office hours, it is suggested (not required, simply suggested) that you email your intention ahead of time. Advanced notice helps me select who I see first when several students show up at the same time. If you cannot come to my office, phoning can also be an effective way of solving various issues. Phoning allows for a richer interaction than email exchange. A phone conversation outside of office hours can also be scheduled via prior email exchange.

I. Specific Description of this Course

This course introduces participants to the study of presidential leadership. The course will have three broad interrelated focuses:

(1) An overview of the historical growth in the role and powers of the presidency in the U.S. political system;

(2) An analysis of presidential leadership performances from the contrasting viewpoints of the President's personal agency and the President's structural location in political time. For this purpose, we will use two analytically different perspectives, namely that of Fred Greenstein's psychological approach and that of Stephen Skowronek's structural-historical scheme and;

(3) An overview of political developments and contexts during the presidencies of Herbert Hoover; Franklin D. Roosevelt; John F. Kennedy; Lyndon B. Johnson; Richard Nixon; Jimmy Carter; Ronald Reagan; Barack Obama; and Donald J. Trump.

II. Course Prerequisites

The successful completion of an introductory course in American Government.
Keeping abreast of current affairs through the regular reading of a serious newspaper.

III. Course Credits

3.0 cr.

IV. Required Texts

You need to procure these books:

Fred Greenstein, *The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style from FDR to Barack Obama.* Princeton University Press, Third edition, 2009, ISBN: 978-0-691-14383-5.

William Leuchtenburg, *The American President: From Teddy Roosevelt to Bill Clinton*. Oxford University Press, 2015.

Theda Skocpol, *Obama and America's Political Future*. Harvard University Press, 2012. ISBN: 978-0-674-06597-0.

Additional readings will be made available in Webcourses in Files under Assigned Readings.

V. Basis for Final Grade

Assessment Overview

WHAT	WHEN	POINTS
Before Course Knowledge of the Presidency This also serves to free up your financial aid.	Friday 1/11: 11:59pm Upload File in Webcourses File: LASTNAME_Before	**2**
Bi-Weekly Quiz Average Each quiz is over 50 points. The average is used to compute the final course grade	Starts Tuesday Jan. 22 Monday afterwards at 11:59 PM	**50**
Bi-Weekly Discussion Post Average Each weekly post is scored over 30 points. The average is used to compute the final course grade	Starts Tuesday Jan. 22 Monday afterwards at 11:59 PM	**30**
Press Dossier Analytical summaries of three substantial mass media articles on President Trump from the standpoint of Greenstein's six qualities of leadership.	Throughout the semester Closes on Monday April 22.	**6**
After Course Knowledge of the Presidency	Monday 4/22 11:59 PM Upload file in Webcourses Monday April 22, 11:59 PM File: LASTNAME_After	**2**

Brief Essay on President Trump analyzed from the standpoint of Greenstein's six qualities of leadership and using the Press Dossier submissions as sources. (1,000 to 2,000 words)	Upload file in Webcourse by Monday April 29 at 11:59 PM	**10**
TOTAL		**100**

The grade totals in the Canvas Grade Book can be terribly misleading. To figure out your standing in the course, follow the simple method described below.

Enter your personal scores for these values:

	Before/After	(over 4 points)
+	Bi-Weekly Quiz aver.	(over 50 points)
+	Bi-Weekly Post aver.	(over 30 points)
+	Press Dossier	(over 6 points)
+	Final Essay	(over 10 points)
=	Total Points Earned	(over 100 points)

Then convert that numerical total into a letter grade in accordance with the Grading Scale below.

Grading Scale (%)	
94-100	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+

Grading Scale (%)	
64-66	D
60-63	D-
0 - 59	F

VI. Course Schedule (subject to adjustment)

NOTE: The weekly modules will occasionally add Instructor Remarks and/or video documentaries to the assignments listed below.

Always check the Webcourses Home Page for updates, general feedback and other useful information. Changes are not likely, but, if they occur, they will be limited. Nevertheless, not paying attention to announced changes might hurt your grade.

The Bi-Weekly Discussion Board updates the Course Outline: in case of a discrepancy between the Course Outline and the Discussion Board of the week, the Board is correct.

Weeks 1-2, Monday 1/7 to Tuesday 1/22:
Growth of the Presidency and Personal Qualities for Effective Leadership

Read: Leuchtenburg, Prologue.

Read: NYT_Greenstein_Obituary, available in Files under Assigned Readings, or click on: https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1324384/files/folder/B)%20Assigned%20Readings?preview=72597494

Read: Greenstein, chapters 1 and 15.

Weeks 3-4: Wd. 1/23 to Mon. 2/4
Context Matters and the Hoover/FDR Discontinuity

Read: Skowronek, pp. 115-128 in File, under Assigned readings, or click on: https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1324384/files/folder/B)%20Assigned%20Readings?preview=72597534

Read: Leuchtenburg, chapter 3 Harding, Coolidge, Hoover.

Read: Leuchtenburg, chapter 4 FDR, pp 143-188 only.

Weeks 5-6: Tue. 2/5 to Mon. 2/18
More on FDR and the New Deal

Read: Greenstein, chapter 2 FDR.

Read: Leuchtenburg, chapter 4 FDR, pp. 188-242.

Weeks 7-8: Tue. 2/19 to Mon. 3/4
JFK, LBJ and the High Point of the New Deal Order

Read: Greenstein, chapter 5 JFK and chapter 6 LBJ.

Read: Leuchtenburg, chapter 7 JFK and chapter 8 LBJ.

Week 9: Tue. 3/5 to Mon. 3/11
Nixon

Read: Greenstein, chapter 7 Nixon.

Read: Leuchtenburg, chapter 9 Nixon.

Week 10: SPRING BREAK

Weeks 11-12: Tue. 3/19 to Mon. 4/1
The Carter/Reagan Discontinuity

Read: Greenstein, chapter 9 Carter and chapter 10 Reagan.

Read: Leuchtenburg, chapter 10 Carter and chapter 11 Reagan.

Weeks 13-14: Tue. 4/2 to Mon. 4/15
Obama: A New Order Stillborn

Read: Time Magazine article on Obama's election.

Read: Greenstein, chapter 14, Obama.

Read: Skocpol, *Obama and the Future of American Politics*.

Read: *The Nation*'s interview with Skowronek.

Weeks 15-16: Tue. 4/16 to Mon. 4/29
Trump's Leadership Capacities

Consult the Final Essay guidance document in Files under Final Essay.

Use the Ask Your Professor Discussion Board to obtain additional guidance in real time.

Complete your submission of analytical summaries of mass media articles on President Trump from the standpoint of Greenstein's six qualities of leadership.

Compose your Final Essay on President Trump analyzed from the standpoint of Greenstein's six qualities of leadership. Use your own Press Dossier submissions as well as those of your classmates as sources.

VII. Policy Statements

Make-up Exams and Assignments
Per university policy, you are allowed to submit make-up work (or an equivalent, alternate assignment) for university-sponsored events, religious observances, or legal obligations (such as jury duty). If this participation conflicts with your course assignments, I will offer a reasonable opportunity for you to complete missed assignments and/or exams. The make-up assignment and grading scale will be equivalent to the missed assignment and its grading scale. Please contact me ahead of time to notify me of upcoming needs.

Can't make the deadline for other reasons than those listed above? Contact the instructor with an explanation and a request for a specific deadline extension.

Academic Integrity

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:

- *Unauthorized assistance*: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
- *Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means*: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
- *Commercial Use of Academic Material*: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
- *Falsifying or misrepresenting* the student's own academic work.
- *Plagiarism*: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.
- *Multiple Submissions*: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
- *Helping another violate* academic behavior standards.
- ***Marien's own addition to UCF policy:*** the listing of works cited not materially used in a post or essay also constitutes a breach of academic honesty. It misrepresents the depth of research done.

For more information about Academic Integrity, students may consult The Center for Academic Integrity.

For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices".

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, The Golden Rule. UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, see http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade.

Turinitin.com:

In this course the instructor may utilize turnitin.com, an automated system which instructors can use to quickly and easily compare each student's assignment with billions of web sites, as well as an enormous database of student papers that grows with each submission. The instructor submits your texts to Turnitin at his discretion. Student found guilty of plagiarism will receive a failing grade for the entire course and may incur additional penalties.

In particular, weekly postings must be original. To ensure originality, students are not able to view classmates' posts before they have themselves posted in the Discussion Board. Students are also not able to edit their postings after having posted it in the Discussion Board. **It is strongly recommended that you compose your post in a word processing file, review it there for content and style and only then paste the final product in the Discussion Board.**

Tests are individual exercises with open access to the materials but limited time to answer the questions.

Course Accessibility Statement
The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone (407) 823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

Campus Safety Statement
Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise in our class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of the surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Please make a note of the guide's physical location and consider reviewing the online version at http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html.
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, we may need to access a first aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those items are located in this building, see http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html (click on link from menu on left).
- To stay informed about emergency situations, sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to my.ucf.edu and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the tool bar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on your Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert," fill out the information, including

your e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK."

- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.
- To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video. You CAN Survive an Active Shooter

Deployed Active Duty Military Students
If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact your instructor to discuss your circumstances.

Copyright
This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Third-Party Software and FERPA
During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need not make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.