University of Central Florida
Political Behavior
POS 4204 | Section OW62-85647 | Fall - 2020

Instructor: Dr. Lynne Gleiber
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Office hours: Tuesdays, 7-8 am and by appointment – All office meetings will be held via Zoom. Please contact me to receive a Zoom invitation.
I will respond to emails within 48 hours.

Course Description

This course will focus on the role of political behavior in American Politics. It will examine political behavior in various forms and among specific groups of individual. Students will be assigned required readings posted on webcourses and from the required text book which will need to be completed before class. Attendance is mandatory.

Course Objectives/Outcomes

Students who successfully complete the course will have obtained:

- Knowledge of widely accepted concepts of:
  - American voting behavior
  - Political Socialization
  - The effects of inequality on participation
  - Participation and the Democratization process
  - Social movement as forms of political behavior
- Knowledge of types of political behavior
- Knowledge of drivers of political behavior

Course Requirements

All students are expected to arrive on time. Cell phones or other communications devices must be turned off or silenced and put away while in class. Students are expected to contribute to class discussions. Work assignments must be completed before class.

Required textbook and readings:

- **Textbook:** *Political Behavior of the American Electorate*, Edition 14, William H. Flanigan, Nancy H. Zingale, Elizabeth A. Theiss-Morse, and Michael W. Wagner.
  - Available in the bookstore
  - Required for the course

- **All other readings:**
  - Posted on webcourses
  - Required for the course

Grading Distribution
Final grades will be composed as follows:

Examination 1	25%
Examination 2	25%
Research Design	10%
Module Activities	20%
Final Examination	30%

Examinations, Research Design assignment, and Grading
Three in-class exams will be given: two during the semester and one final exam. Questions will be based on information covered in the textbook, articles, and book excerpts as well as material presented during class lectures, presentations, and discussions. The completion and submission of a research design paper is a requirement for the course. Detailed instructions will be discussed during the second week of the semester. The dates for all exams and for turning in the research design are listed in the course schedule below.

In the interest of fairness to all students, extra credit work will not be given. Make-up exams will not be given (with the exception of cases involving documented emergencies). It is the responsibility of the student to contact me (by telephone, voice mail or e-mail) before or immediately after the missed exam to inform me that an emergency has occurred. Students must arrive on time to take exams. No student will be allowed to begin an exam once other students have finished and left the exam room.

Academic Integrity
Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. For clarification of what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/
. Students are Violations of the rules addressing academic integrity stated in The Golden Rule will result in documentation of the infraction and a grade of zero for the work in question. Confirmation of academic dishonesty an also result in expulsion from the University of Central Florida.

Attendance and Withdrawal
Students are expected to participate in all course activities and are responsible for withdrawing from the course if he or she decides not to complete it. Students who discontinue participation, and do not withdraw will fail the course.

Active Duty Military Students
Accommodations for active duty military students are available. Please see the instructor to make any arrangements.

Special Needs
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 who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Ferrell Commons Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from me for the course. Once Student Disability Services has been contacted, I am happy to make any arrangements needed by my students.

Required statement from the University regarding COVID-19:
University-Wide Face Covering Policy for Common Spaces and Face-to-Face Classes
To protect members of our community, everyone is required to wear a facial covering inside all common spaces including classrooms (https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf. Students who choose not to wear facial coverings will be asked to leave the classroom by the instructor. If they refuse to leave the classroom or put on a facial covering, they may be considered disruptive (please see the Golden Rule for student behavior expectations). Faculty have the right to cancel class if the safety and well-being of class members are in jeopardy. Students will be responsible for the material that would have been covered in class as provided by the instructor.

Notifications in Case of Changes to Course Modality
Depending on the course of the pandemic during the semester, the university may make changes to the way classes are offered. If that happens, please look for announcements or messages in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email about changes specific to this course.

COVID-19 and Illness Notification
Students who believe they may have a COVID-19 diagnosis should contact UCF Student Health Services (407-823-2509) so proper contact tracing procedures can take place.
Students should not come to campus if they are ill, are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID, or if anyone living in their residence has tested positive or is sick with COVID-19 symptoms. CDC guidance for COVID-19 symptoms is located here: (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)
Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss class for any illness reason to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing class.

In Case of Faculty Illness
If the instructor falls ill during the semester, there may be changes to this course, including having a backup instructor take over the course. Please look for announcements or mail in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email for any alterations to this course.

Course Accessibility and Disability COVID-19 Supplemental Statement

Accommodations may need to be added or adjusted should this course shift from an on-campus to a remote format. Students with disabilities should speak with their instructor and should contact sas@ucf.edu to discuss specific accommodations for this or other courses.

Campus Safety Statement

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of their 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. Students should make a note of the guide's physical location and review 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, students may need to access a first-aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those are located, see http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html (click on link from menu on left).
- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to ucf.edu and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on the Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert", fill out the information, including 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.

Course Plan

The following is a schedule of readings, exams, and assignments for the course. Adjustments may be made if necessary, because of emerging situations. Please note that if classes are suspended for any reason, students should attempt to adhere to the dates of readings and assignments listed below unless advised to do otherwise.

Date	Topics	Reading	Module Activities
25-Aug	Introduction		Web discussion
Module 1. Social Movements			
27	Women's Suffrage and Black Liberation - Angela Davis, Women Race and Class	Ch. 3	
1-Sep			Small Group discussion
3	Latino Social Movements -La Raza Unida	Journal Article	
8			Small Group discussion
10	Current Social Movements - What's Goin On?		Web discussion
Module 2. Voting Behavior			
15	Democratic Beliefs and American Democracy	Ch. 1 pp. 20-30	Written assignment
17	Electoral Context and Strategy	Ch. 2 pp. 35-52	Web discussion
22	Turnout and Participation in Elections	Ch. 3: 63-78	Small Group discussion
24	Article: Matinez, Michael D, and Jeff Gill; The Effects of Turnout on Partisan Outcomes in U.S. Presidential Elections 1960-2000" JOPVol. 67, No. 4 (Nov., 2005)	pp. 1248-1274	Small Group discussion
29	**Exam 1**		
Module 3. Socialization and Partisanship			
1-Oct	Renshon, Stanley A. 1975, "Personality and Family Dynamics in the Political Socialization Process", American Journal of Political Science (AJPS)	pp. 63-80	
6			Small Group discussion
8	Niemi, Richard and M. Kent Jennings 1991, "Issues and Inheritance in the Formation of Party Identification." AJPS	pp. 970-988	Web discussion
Module 4. Equality and Participation			

13	JOURNAL ARTICLE Race, Ethnicity and Political Resources: Participation in the United States Sidney Verba, Kay Lehman Schlozman, Henry Brady, Norman H. Nie British Journal of Political Science, Vol. 23, No. 4 (Oct., 1993),	pp. 453-497	
15			Small Group discussion
20	BOOK CHAPTER: Voice, Equality, and Latino Civic Engagements, From: New Advances in the Study of Civic Voluntarism: Resources, Engagement, and Recruitment; Lisa Garcia Bedolla, Dinorah Sanchez Loza, Temple University Press (2016)	pp. 25-38	
22			Small Group discussion
27	Latinos, Asian Americans, and the Voluntarism/Voting Gap(pp. 39-53) From: New Advances in the Study of Civic Voluntarism: Resources, Engagement, and Recruitment, S. Karthick Ramakrishnan, Sono Shah Temple University Press (2016)	pp. 33-53	Web discussion
29	**Exam 2**		
Module 5. Public Opinion			
3-Nov	Verba et al., 1993 "Citizen Activity: Who Participates? What do they say?" American Political Science Review (APSR), 87: 303 – 318	pp. 303-318	
5	The Spiral of Silence	TBA	Small Group discussion
10	The Spiral of Silence	TBA	Web discussion
12	Group Characteristics and Social Networks	Ch. 5: 125-156	Written assignment
Module 6. Media Influence, Institutional Determinants			
17	Public Opinion and Ideology	Ch. 6: 162-199	Small Group discussion
19	Political Communication and the Mass Media	Ch. 7: 205-237	
24			Web discussion
26	Thanksgiving Day		
1-Dec	Vote Choice and Electoral Decisions	Ch. 8: 245-287	Small Group discussion
3	Last class		tbd