PUP 3314-AW60: Minorities in American Politics

School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs

University of Central Florida

Summer A 2020

Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

- Dr. Wright
  - ***Given UCF's transition to remote instruction, all office hours will take place virtually (i.e. via phone, Zoom meeting, etc.)***
  - Office Hours: Mondays from 9:30am to 11:30am, also available via appointment
  - Email: Kenicia.Wright@ucf.edu, the "Inbox" tool in UCF Webcourses
- GTA: Sara Belligoni, Email: sara.belligoni@ucf.edu; email to schedule an appointment

Course Information

- Term: Summer 2020, Session: A
- Course Number & Section: PUP 3314-AW60
- Credit Hours: 3 credit hours
- Class Meeting Days: Online course
- Course Modality: W - fully web-developed course

Enrollment Requirements

Course Prerequisites: ENC1102 or POS 2041, or consent of the instructor. Students may find understand the concepts covered in this course very difficult if they have not completed American National Government (POS2041).

Course Description

This course is designed to improve your understanding of the historical and contemporary role of minority groups in the American political process, including an examination of their electoral significance and relevant legislative, executive, and judicial policies. The specific topics we will discuss, include the difference between race and ethnicity, racial formation in the US, the history of race / ethnicity in the US, and political related effects of race/ethnicity. We will read academic articles in this course. Most of this research focuses on the largest minority groups in the U.S. (i.e. Blacks, Latinx individuals). Because of the status of the existing literature, most of our discussion will center on these groups; we will give attention to the growing body of research on other minority groups, as well as intersectionality, near the end of the course.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course should be able to:

1. Explain the meaning of race and ethnicity in the American context, as well as the difference between the two.
2. Describe the historical influence of race and ethnicity in the US.
3. Explain the continued social inequality that minorities in the US continue to face.
4. Appropriately differentiate academic articles from reputable, non-academic sources.
5. Gain access to, and explain the main sections, of academic sources.
6. Summarize the research questions, theory, hypotheses, and main findings of scholarly readings that we cover in this course.
7. Respectfully respond to the comments and views of other students on topics related to minorities in the US.

Course Materials and Resources

Required Materials

1. *Diversity and Society: Race, Ethnicity, and Gender*. Healey and Stepnick. 6th edition
   ISBN: 9781506389059 (D&S in the Course Schedule)
   To assist with potential difficulty of purchasing this required text and challenges related to COVID-19, students enrolled in this course will have immediate access to digital course materials through Webcourses@UCF. This course is part of an inclusive access model called First Day™, which allows enrolled students to easily access the required materials for this course at a discounted price, and benefit from single sign-on access with no codes required in UCF Webcourses. UCF Student Account Office will bill you at the discounted price as a course charge for this course. You can choose to Opt-In on the first day of class, right within UCF Webcourses. Be sure to Opt-In before the deadline of Friday, May 15, 2020 at 11:59pm for Summer A, C, D 2020 courses to gain access. You will have the option to purchase the eTextbook at a discounted rate and defer payment through your student account. After the add/drop deadline you will still be able to purchase the book through traditional means. Additional information is available at: https://digitallearning.ucf.edu/ilab/aim/first-day/.
   Helpful videos are available here:
   - Opting-In and Accessing your eTextbook: https://vimeo.com/306061595 Opting-In for your Courseware Materials: https://vimeo.com/304673669
   - Other Features on the Course Materials page: https://vimeo.com/304675344

   Customer Care is available 24/7 to help students with questions about accessing their course material, using their eTextbook, or opting-out or in to the First Day program.
   - Email the Customer Care team: bookstorecustomercare@bncollege.com
   - Call the Customer Care team: 1-844-9-EBOOKS (1-844-932-6657)
   - Your Bookstore Contact: Melissa Yopack, Melissa.yopack@ucf.edu

2. Additional academic articles will be assigned in this course. The Week 1 Module contains an exercise that explains the steps students need to complete to gain access to assigned readings published in academic journals.

Additional Texts: If you're interested in learning more about minorities in American Politics, you can read the books listed below.

1. Aguirre, A., & Turner, J. H. (2009). *American ethnicity: The dynamics and consequences of discrimination.* McGraw-Hill Humanities Social.
2. King, K. (2010). *African American Politics*. Polity Press.
3. McClain, P. D. (2018). *Can We All Get Along?: Racial and Ethnic Minorities in American Politics.* Routledge.
4. Omi, M. and Winant, H. (2014). *Racial Formation in the United States.* Routledge.

Course Assignments

1. **Syllabus Quiz (1 points)**
   - This assignment will open on the first day of class and counts as the required financial aid activity. Students should read the course syllabus *then* complete the quiz.

2. **Discussion Posts (worth 10 points each, 20 points total)**

   Although this is an online course, there are benefits from discussing the topics we will cover in this course with other enrolled students. To this end, all students will be randomly assigned to a group at the start of the semester; each student is expected to contribute to the group discussion on a topic listed in the assignment upload area in Webcourses. In order to receive all possible points for this assignment, each student MUST:

   (1) Upload a first post that responds to Dr. Wright's discussion question by Tuesday at 11:59pm,
   (2) Upload a second that responds to the first post of a group member by Thursday at 11:59pm,
   (3) Upload a third post by Friday at 11:59pm.
   For student who received a response to their first post: the third post should be a response to a comment that a group member left on your first discussion post.
   For students who did not receive a response to their first post: grading of the third post will be based on whether you: (1) leave a comment on the discussion post assignment that states you didn't receive a response on your first post and (2) add a post that responds to a group member's first post (should not be the same group member you responded to in your second post).

   Carefully read all provided instructions in Webcourses BEFORE starting this assignment! In order to receive full credit, student's posts must align with the requirements listed in Webcourses and be in Webcourses by the deadline. Discussion posts must address all requirements noted in the assignment upload area in Webcourses, be RESPECTFUL, and reflect critical thinking; responses of "Interesting", "Thanks", "Yes / No" etc. will result no credit being earned!

3. **Faculty Biography (worth 10 points)**

   Students must develop a short summary of a current UCF faculty member who belongs to a minority group. Students should upload a Word document that explicitly states: (1) The name of the faculty member, (2) The department or school within UCF that the faculty member is affiliated with, (3) Approximately a paragraph that summarizes the faculty member's

background and area of research / courses taught, and (4) Approximately a paragraph that explains why you selected that faculty member. *Note:* Students do not need to contact the faculty member to complete this assignment. Most UCF faculty provide a CV or background information online; the information on the CV is enough to complete this assignment.

4. **Annotated Bibliography (worth 20 points)**

By the end of the semester, students must upload a Word document with TEN summaries of academic sources in political science academic journals on a research question related to this course (i.e. "Minorities in American Politics"). Students must have their topic approved by the deadline listed in the Course Schedule below and can NOT include readings assigned in the course.

An example will be provided in Webcourses. Student are expected to summarize the key points of TEN academic articles *in their own words.* Submissions that do not contain TEN sources are subject to a "0". For each academic article, students MUST include: (1) the full APA citation of the article, (2) the main points of each reading (the research question, the theory, hypotheses, main findings), and (3) a paragraph that explains how each source relates to your research question and what you learned. Grading will be based on the appropriateness of the source (published in a POLITICAL SCIENCE academic journal), originality (i.e. writing in your own words, and presenting information beyond online summaries / the research abstract), and whether the summary meets the requirements above. ***All submissions will be reviewed through Turnitin – if there is a high match between summary content and online sources, submissions in Turnitin, and/or the research abstract of the article, your submission is subject to a "0" – use all of your own writing in your submission!***

5. **Exams (worth 25 points each, total of 50 points)**

There are TWO required exams in this course. Exams will contain questions over assigned readings and may consist of multiple choice, true / false, and/or short essay questions. Exams are NOT cumulative and will be completed online; exams will be available for students to complete from **Friday at 11:59pm to Sunday at 11:59pm (all deadline times are EST).**

Students MUST use ProctorHub while completing the test. A practice test will be available for students to complete to ensure that the ProctorHub tool works effectively on the computer they intend on using to complete the exam. Review the module provided before each exam and the exam assignment area in Webcourses, for additional information. For clarity, students enrolled in this course, MUST:

(1) Have a working webcam enabled on their computer when completing the exams and give permission to webcourses@ucf.edu to monitor their behavior during exam completion. Webcams are standard on most laptops; if you do not have access to a webcam, contact Dr. Wright *as soon as possible.* Students will receive a score of "0", if ProctorHub is not used or if the student appears to engage in suspicious behavior while completing the exam.

Students who would like to improve their grade at the end of the course, will have the ability to complete a third exam. The third exam is *optional* – students who decide not to complete the exam will not see a difference in their grade; the grades of students who complete the

exam will only change if the score higher on the exam than the two required exams in the course. The structure of the exam will be the same as the two required exams and additional details will be provided in the assignment upload area in Webcourses.

Additional Notes

- There are several options for contacting Dr. Wright: via email at Kenicia.Wright@ucf.edu and through the Inbox tool in Webcourses; appointments, phone calls, and Zoom meetings are also possible. The course GTA is also available to answer questions or provide suggestions.
- Students who aim to be successful in this course MUST complete all assigned readings. Assignments should be submitted by the deadline listed in this syllabus. The ability to complete tasks by a deadline is a life skill that is necessary for a successful life outside of college, so Dr. Wright will NOT accept late work without documentation supporting a University approved excuse for missing the assignment. Appropriate documentation – a doctor's note, a photo, etc. – should be emailed to Dr. Wright at Kenicia.Wright@ucf.edu within FIVE business days of the absence. Contact Dr. Wright as soon as possible if you're aware you won't be able to complete an assigned in this course.
- Students may complete an optional module if they would like to improve their grade – no questions asked! Outside of this, there will be no extra credit in this course. If you have concerns about your grade, contact Dr. Wright as soon as possible. Do NOT wait until the course is ending before reaching out to Dr. Wright as she will have limited ability to help you if you don't contact her early.
- This course is fully online. Students taking this course should have regular access to the internet and log into the course **frequently** (daily at a minimum)! Enrolled students are responsible for any information provided by Dr. Wright and/or the course GTA via email, Webcourses Announcement, etc.

Make-up Exam and Assignments

Per university policy, students can 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, students should contact Dr. Wright as early in the semester as possible.

Assessment Procedures

Assignment	***Points***
Syllabus Quiz	1 point
Discussion Post I	10 points
Faculty Biography	10 points
Exam I	25 points
Discussion Post II	10 points
Exam II	25 points
Annotated Bibliography	20 points

Total	101 points

Grading

A: 92.5 - 100 points
A-: 89.5 - 92.4 points
B+: 86.5 - 89.4 points
B: 82.5 - 86.4 points
B-: 79.5 - 82.4 points
C+: 76.5 - 79.4 points
C: 72.5 - 76.4 points
C-: 69.5 – 72.4 points
D+: 66.5 - 69.4 points
D: 62.5 - 66.4 points
D-: 59.5 - 62.4 points
F: 59.4 points and below

Course Schedule

Week and topic	Assignments and Due Dates	Required Readings
Module 1: Course Introduction (May 11 – May 15)	Assignment: Complete Syllabus Quiz (required financial aid activity) as soon as possible. **May 14th: Drop/Swap Deadline** *Students should complete the Practice Quiz in Webcourses to ensure they can use ProctorHub.*	*By Wednesday, May 13th* • Course Syllabus • Pew Research Center "The Changing Categories the US Census has used to measure Race" https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/02/25/the-changing-categories-the-u-s-has-used-to-measure-race/ • Hutchings, Vincent L., and Nicholas A. Valentino. (2004). "The Centrality of Race in American Politics." *Annual Review of Political Science* *By Friday, May 15th* • Lee, Taeku. (2008). "Race, Immigration, and Identity-to-Politics Link." *Annual Review of Political Science* • Parker, Christopher Sebastian. (2016). "Race and Politics in the Age of Obama." *Annual Review of Sociology*
Module 2: Diversity in the US (May 18 – May 22)	**Assignment: Discussion Post I** (1) Students must make their first discussion post by **May 19th at 11:59pm.** (2) Students must make their first response to a comment from a	*By Monday, May 18th* • D&S, Ch. 1 "Diversity in the US" *By Wednesday, May 20th* • Hobbs, William, and Nazita Lajevardi. (2019). "Effects of Divisive Political Campaigns on the Day-to-Day Segregation of Arab and Muslim Americans." *American Political Science Review* • Kalkan, Kerem Ozan, Geoffrey C. Layman, and Eric M. Uslaner. (2009). ""Bands of others"?

	classmate by **May 21st at 11:59pm.** (3) **St**udents must make their second response by **May 22nd at 11:59pm.**	Attitudes toward Muslims in contemporary American society." *The Journal of Politics* *By Friday, May 22nd* • Schildkraut, Deborah J. (2014). "Boundaries of American identity: evolving understandings of "Us"." *Annual Review of Political Science*
Module 3: "Immigrants" (May 25 – May 29) *Note: Memorial Day is 5/25/2020*	**Assignment: Exam I** *The exam will open **Friday, May 29th at 11:59pm** and will close on **Sunday, May 31st at 11:59pm.***	*By Tuesday, May 26th* • D&S, Ch. 2 "Assimilation and Pluralism…" • Gell-Redman, Micah et al. (2018). "Do lawmakers respond to immigrants' requests? The answer depends on ethnicity and race." Monkey Cage Post. *https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/01/16/do-lawmakers-respond-to-immigrants-requests-the-answer-depends-on-ethnicity-and-race/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.e8877ae2a171* *By Thursday, May 28th* • Hopkins, Daniel J., Cheryl R. Kaiser, Efrén O. Pérez, Sara Hagá, Corin Ramos, and Michael Zárate. (2019). "Does perceiving discrimination influence partisanship among US immigrant minorities? Evidence from five experiments." *Journal of Experimental Political Science* *By Friday, May 29th* • D&S, Ch. 3
Module 4: Majority-Minority Relations / Specific Minority Groups (June 1 - June 5)	**NO assignments this week!** **June 4th:** Withdrawal Deadline	*By Monday, June 1st* • D&S, Ch. 4 *By Wednesday, June 3rd - African Americans* • D&S, Ch. 5, "African Americans…" • Tesler, Michael. (2012). "The Spillover of Racialization into Health Care…" *American Journal of Political Science* *By Friday, June 5th – Native Americans* • D&S, Ch. 6 "Native Americans…" • Frymer, Paul. (2016). "Why Aren't Political Scientists Interested in Native American Politics?" *Perspectives on Politics* • Huyser, Kimberly R., Gabriel R. Sanchez, and Edward D. Vargas. (2017). "Civic engagement and political participation among American Indians and Alaska natives in the US." *Politics, Groups, and Identities*

Module 5: Specific Minority Groups Continued (June 8 – June 12)	**Assignment: Exam II** *The exam will open* ***Friday, June 12th at 11:59pm*** *and will close on* ***Sunday, June 14th at 11:59pm.***	*By Monday, June 8th – Hispanic Americans* • D&S, Ch. 7 "Hispanic Americans…" *By Wednesday, June 10th – Asian Americans* • D&S, Ch. 8 "Asian Americans…"
Week 6: Course Wrap-up – Where we go from here? (June 15 – June 19)	Assignment: Discussion Post II (1) Students must make their first discussion post by **June 9th at 11:59pm.** (2) Students must make their first response to a comment from a classmate by **June 11th at 11:59pm**. (3) Students must make their second response by **June 12th at 11:59pm.**	*By Monday, June 15th* • D&S, Ch. 9 "New Americans, Assimilation, and Old Challenges" *By Wednesday, June 17th* • D&S, Ch. 10 "Minority Groups and US Society…" • Pew Research Center, "Reflecting a Demographic Shift…": https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/08/21/u-s-counties-majority-nonwhite/ *By Friday, June 19th* • Masuoka, N. (2008). "Political attitudes and ideologies of multiracial Americans: The implications of mixed race in the United States." *Political Research Quarterly* • Simien, Evelyn M., and Ange-Marie Hancock. (2011). "Mini-symposium: Intersectionality research." *Political Research Quarterly* • Zhu, Ling, and Kenicia Wright. (2016). "Why do Americans Dislike Publicly Funded Health Care?" *Politics, Groups, and Identities* **(Will be provided to the class.)**
Extra Module: Additional Insight	**Optional module: Students wanting to improve their grade can complete this module.** **Assignment: Comprehensive Exam will be available from** **The grade students earn on this exam will only replace a lower exam grade. Students who do**	*Assigned Readings:* • Boyd, Christina L. (2016). "Representation on the Courts? The Effects of Trail Judges' Sex and Race." *Political Research Quarterly* • Claypool, Vicki Hesli, and Carol Mershon. (2016). "Does diversity matter? Evidence from a survey of political science faculty." *Politics, Groups, and Identities* • Masuoka, Natalie, Kumar Ramanathan, and Jane Junn. (2019). "New Asian American Voters: Political Incorporation and Participation in 2016." *Political Research Quarterly*

	not complete this module will not have any changes to their grade – this module is completely optional!	• Phillips and Lee. (2018). "Superficial Equality: Gender and immigration in Asian American political participation". *Politics, Groups, and Identities* • Rocha, Rene R. (2007). "Black-Brown Coalitions in Local School Board Elections." *Political Research Quarterly*

Policy Statements

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.

For more information about Academic Integrity, students may consult The Center for Academic Integrity (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.".

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 for academic dishonesty, plagiarism, or cheating can include a warning, a “0” on an assignment, an “F” in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student’s official transcript indicating academic dishonesty. For more information about the Z Designation, see http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade.

University Writing Center
The University Writing Center (UWC) is a free resource for UCF undergraduates and graduates. At the UWC, a trained writing consultant will work with you on your writing (in or out of class), at any point in the writing process from brainstorming to editing. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information, or to make an appointment, visit the UWC website at http://www.uwc.ucf.edu, stop by MOD 608, or call (407)823-2197.

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.

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.

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change at any point during this semester per the discretion of the course instructor. Updated Course Syllabi will be posted in Webcourses. Students are responsible for all course-related information provided in Webcourses.