Syllabus and Schedule
POS 4622-OW60 Politics and Civil Rights

Dr. Terri Susan Fine

Fall 2021

Section	Location	Credit Hours
OW60	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 Hours	Office hours: Tuesday, 11:45am-2:45pm, via ZOOM By appointment: ZOOM, telephone or face-to-face, by appointment Face-to-face meetings are available at: School of Politics, Security and International Affairs HPH 302K, UCF Main Campus Lou Frey Institute, 12443 Research Parkway, Bldg. 400, Suite 406, UCF Research Park **Appointments are readily available as the need arises.**
Phone	407-823-2081 (voicemail not available); send a course message with contact information
Course mail	Available through the "Inbox" function on the course home page (CANVAS menu, on left) Do not use "Discussions" to send messages as discussions are not private

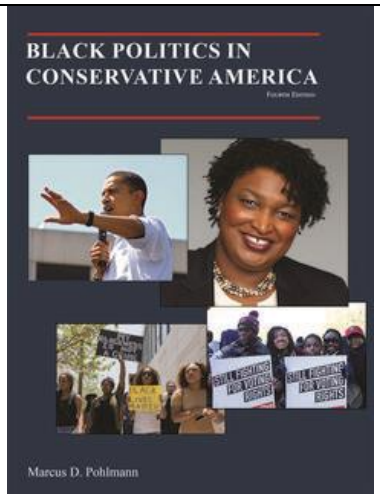
Personal e-mail	terri.fine@ucf.edu **Note:** E-mail to this personal account is to be used for emergencies only (e.g., if you lack CANVAS access); All regular communication must go through the course "Inbox" (message) function. Non-emergency e-mail submitted to my personal account will not receive a response.
Course page	https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1389960

This course introduces students to the politics of civil rights in the United States, focusing on the African American experience. 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.

Students will examine 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 explore the political nature of judicial decisions in the context of key U.S. Supreme Court cases and will examine key civil rights legislation and the role that government and politics play when mobilizing African Americans to promote civil rights protections.

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 reverse discrimination, majority-minority districting, and party politics.

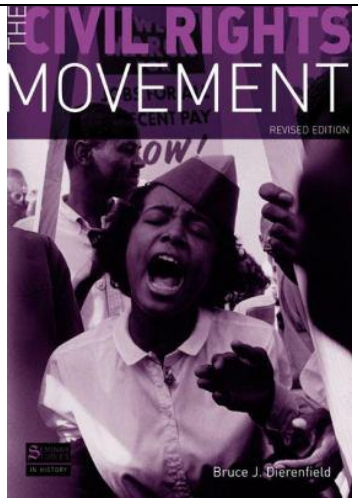
Course Texts:



Black Politics in Conservative America, 4th ed., by Marcus Pohlmann. Sloan Educational

Publishing. ISBN: 978-1-59738-092-8

Note: Be certain to purchase the Fourth Edition of the course textbook, which is available through the UCF Bookstore and Sloan Publishing. Amazon does not sell the Fourth Edition of the course text.



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

Note: This textbook is available as a free, unlimited-user eBook for anyone at UCF.

To access the free textbook, go to:
https://go.openathens.net/redirector/ucf.edu?url=https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/9781315834054

Accessing the textbook requires that you authenticate (log in) as a UCF student. You are permitted to read the textbook online or download content to read offline. Any unauthorized sharing of the textbook content is in violation of the license agreement between the publisher and university. The license permits access to this textbook for current UCF students, staff, and faculty only. Contact your librarian, Corinne Bishop, if you have questions.

Assessment

Grades will be based on several analyses, short activities, interactive discussions, and quizzes. The entire course will be conducted on-line; there will be no face-to-face meetings.

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Assignment Type	Number of Each Assignment Type	Points Available
Analyses	5	300 points each
Short Activities	6	150 points each
Quizzes	11	130 points each

Discussions	3	100 points each
Extra Credit	1	150 points

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 before or after the missed assignment (unless doing so is impossible and the reason is documented) to be eligible to submit that assignment late. It is the instructor's sole discretion as to whether an assignment extension will be provided.

COVID-19 and Illness Notification

Students who believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 or who test positive must 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 or have tested positive for COVID-19.

Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss an assignment for any illness to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing an assignment.

The COVID-19 pandemic impacts us all in many ways, including physically, mentally, emotionally, financially, academically, and professionally. I will work with you on challenges you may be encountering and to provide support to help you succeed within course parameters.

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 a course message or Knights email for any alterations to this course.

Course Navigation

Course materials are included on the "Modules" tab.

Below is a short description of each module:

Module Name	**Module Description**
Course Navigation	This module includes materials focusing on the "nuts and bolts" of the course including the syllabus, a course navigation PowerPoint and a PowerPoint introducing the instructor to the class.
Student Success	This module includes materials focusing on student success including a PowerPoint focusing on proofreading and professional presentation and a list of writing resources and strategies for avoiding plagiarism.
Introduction	This module includes information on the two assessments required for the Introduction module. These assessments include a course

	navigation quiz and an interactive introduction discussion. **Note: The U.S. Department of Education requires that all students complete a scored assessment during the first week of classes in each course in which they are enrolled. Students who do not complete the course navigation quiz and the interactive introduction discussion may be removed from the course by the university.**
Module One: Race and Politics in America	This module includes instructions and materials for completing "Module One: Race and Politics in America"
Module Two: Blacks and the American Political Economy	This module includes instructions and materials for completing "Module Two: Blacks and the American Political Economy"
Module Three: The Civil Rights Movement	This module includes instructions and materials for completing "Module Three: The Civil Rights Movement"
Module Four: Blacks in American Politics	This module includes instructions and materials for completing "Module Four: Blacks in American Politics"
Extra Credit (Optional)	This module includes instructions and materials for completing a short optional extra credit activity.

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.

Letter Grade	Accumulated Points	Accumulated Points as a Percentage

		of Available Points
A	3840-4130	93%
A-	3675-3839	89%
B+	3550-3674	86%
B	3385-3549	82%
B-	3260-3384	79%
C+	3100-3259	75%
C	2975-3099	72%
C-	2850-2974	69%
D+	2685-2849	65%
D	2560-2684	62%
D-	2395-2559	58%
F	2395 and lower	

Formative Assessment and Course Objectives

Formative Assessment	Course Objectives Met
Analyses	Analyzing how African Americans experience civil 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
Interactive Discussions	Reflecting on how civil rights issues affect and are affected by political and electoral institutions
Quizzes	Understanding how civil rights issues affect and are affected by political and electoral institutions
Short Activities	Engagement with stimuli focusing on various civil rights issues

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Fall 2021 Schedule

Contact me if you have any concerns about the reading load, tips on getting the most from your reading, or the course in general. 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, short activities) are due at 11:59pm on their assigned days.

Schedule

All course assignments are described in the course modules. Access course modules by clicking on "Modules" on the left menu of the course "Home" page.

Module	Module Assignments	Due Date
Introduction Module	Course Orientation Quiz Interactive Discussion: Class Introductions **(NOTE: The Introduction Module score will not be included in the determination of final grades. Failure to complete the Course Orientation quiz places students at risk for course withdrawal)**	Sunday, August 29, 11:59pm
Module One: Race and Politics in America	Pohlmann, Chapter 1 Quiz Short Activity: Mayflower Compact	Sunday, September 5, 11:59pm Note: UCF is closed to observe Labor Day, September 6
	Pohlmann, Chapter 2 Quiz Short Activity: Interest Group Mission Statements	Sunday, September 12, 11:59pm
Module Two: Blacks and the American Political Economy	Pohlmann, Chapter 3 Quiz Analysis: Frederick Douglass and the U.S. Constitution	Sunday, September 19, 11:59pm
	Pohlmann, Chapter 4 Quiz Short Activity: Public Opinion and Race Relations	Sunday, September 26, 11:59pm
	Pohlmann, Chapter 5 Quiz Interactive Discussion: African Americans in a Post-Industrial Economy	Sunday, October 3, 11:59pm
Module Three: The Civil Rights Movement	Dierenfield, Chapters 1-4 Quiz (Note: Chapters 1-4 are included in one quiz) Short Activity: John Lewis and Political Activism	Sunday, October 10, 11:59pm
	Analysis: Cooper v. Aaron	Sunday, October 17, 11:59pm
	Dierenfield, Chapter 5-10 Quiz	Sunday, October

	(Note: Chapters 5-10 are included in one quiz) Analysis: Women and Civil Rights Activism	24, 11:59pm
	Interactive Discussion: School Integration Short Activity: De Facto v. De Jure Segregation	Sunday, October 31, 11:59pm
	Dierenfield, Chapter 11-13 Quiz (Note: Chapters 11-13 are included in one quiz) Analysis: Seeking Voting Rights	Sunday, November 7, 11:59pm
Module Four: Blacks in American Politics	Pohlmann, Chapter 6 Quiz	Sunday, November 14, 11:59pm
	Pohlmann, Chapter 7 Quiz Polhmann, Chapter 8 Quiz Short Activity: Nomination of Thurgood Marshall to the U.S. Supreme Court	Sunday, November 21, 11:59pm
	No Assignment **Thanksgiving Holiday**	**UCF classes are canceled Wednesday, November 24-28 to observe Thanksgiving**
	Analysis: Implementing the Civil Rights Act	Sunday, December 5, 11:59pm
	Interactive Discussion: Economic and Political Empowerment Short Activity (optional): Protesting through the Courts **Note: The optional extra credit short activity is worth 150 points.** **Note: There is no final exam in this course**	Wednesday, December 8, 11:59pm

University Policies

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 including:

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, consult the International 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 consult *The Golden Rule*.

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 (SAS) (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 for Students in Online-Only Courses:

Though most emergency situations are primarily relevant to courses that meet in person, such incidents can also impact online students, either when they are on or near campus to participate in other courses or activities or when their course work is affected by off-campus emergencies. The following policies apply to courses in online modalities.

To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to <https://my.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 in private.

Make-Up Assignments for Authorized University Events or Co-curricular Activities:

Students who represent the university in an authorized event or activity (for example, student-athletes) and who are unable to meet a course deadline due to a conflict with that event must provide the instructor with documentation in advance to arrange a make-up. No penalty will be applied.

Religious Observances:

Students must notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class or an assignment deadline for a religious observance. Notice one week in advance is required at which time we will negotiate appropriate deadlines for assessments that will be missed due to religious observance.

Deployed Active-Duty Military Students:

Students who are deployed active-duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.