Syllabus and Schedule

POS 4206-OW60 Political Psychology

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 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/1389940

Course Description

This course introduces elements of political psychology giving special emphasis to American politics. The way that the public views its political world is a function of how that political world is presented to it. Cultural dynamics framing political experiences are integral to understanding how the public sees its role in politics. It is also important that one understands how that framework influences citizen participation in politics.

We will analyze aspects of political psychology including attitudes and behavior, information processing, and decision making. How these issues function within the context of welfare reform will then be investigated, to better understand how competing values affect the policy making process. Multiple information sources will be consulted to full course requirements.

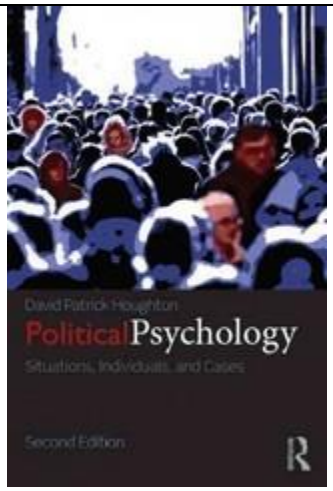
Course Goals:

a) Understand the relationship between psychology and politics
b) Explain mass-level political participation through the lens of political psychology
c) Explain elite behavior through the lens of political psychology
d) Understand how the policy process are impacted by political psychology

Course Objectives: At the end of this course, you will be able to:

a) Develop approaches to analyzing the relationship between psychology and politics
b) Critique the role that psychology plays in mass-level participation and elite behavior.
c) Evaluate how political psychology affects and is affected by political and electoral institutions.
d) Describe how political psychology impacts policy making.

Course Texts



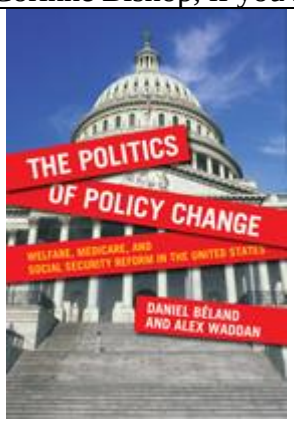
Political Psychology: Situations, Individuals and Cases by David Patrick Houghton, Second Edition, New York: Routledge Press.

ISBN: 978-0-41583-382-0.

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/9781135051785

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.



The Politics of Policy Change: Welfare, Medicare and Social Security Reform in the United States by Daniel Beland and Alex Waddan, Washington, DC: George Washington University Press.

ISBN: 978-1-58901-884-6.

Be certain to purchase this textbook only and not older or alternate editions.

Assessment

Grades are based on several analyses, discussions, and quizzes, along with an extra credit opportunity. The entire course will be conducted on-line; there will be no face-to-face class meetings or exams.

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Assignment Type	Number of Each Assignment Type	Points Available
Analyses	6	350 points each
Quizzes	13	125 points each
Discussions	6	100 points each
Extra Credit	1	150 points

Assignments are due on the day and time posted; late assignments may be submitted with prior arrangement with the instructor and submission of proper 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.

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:	This module includes instructions and materials for completing "Module One: Political Psychology as an Academic Discipline"
Module Two	This module includes instructions and materials for completing "Module Two: Political Psychology and Political Situations"
Module Three	This module includes instructions and materials for completing "Module Three: Political Psychology and the Individual"
Module Four	This module includes instructions and materials for completing "Module Four: Bringing Together the Situation and the Individual"
Module Five	This module includes instructions and materials for completing "Module Five: The Politics Psychology of Policy Change"
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

Formative Assessment Goals and Objectives

Analyses	Analyze the relationship between psychology and politics in the United States Critique the role that psychology plays in mass-level participation, elite behavior and public policy Evaluate how political psychology affects and is affected by political and electoral institutions.
Quizzes	Understand how political psychology affects and is affected by political and electoral institutions.
Discussions	Analyze the relationship between psychology and politics in the United States Critique the role that psychology plays in mass-level participation, elite behavior and public policy Evaluate how political psychology affects and is affected by political and electoral institutions.

Grading Procedures

Final grades are based on the overall accumulated points. Numerical grades compute into letter grades as follows (Note: Percentages are not rounded):

Letter Grade	Accumulated Points	Approximate Accumulated Percentage of Total Points
A	4020 and higher	93%
A-	3800-4019	88%
B+	3680-3799	85%
B	3500-3679	81%
B-	3375-3499	78%
C+	3240-3374	75%
C	3070-3239	71%
C-	2940-3069	68%
D+	2810-2939	65%
D	2640-2809	61%
D-	2510-2639	58%

F	2509 and lower	

POS 4206 Political Psychology
Fall 2021 Schedule

Please contact me if you have any concerns about the reading load, tips on getting the most from the course materials, 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, analyses, discussions) are due at 11:59pm on Fridays.

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: Political Psychology as an Academic Discipline	Houghton, Chapter 1/2 Analysis: Political Psychology and the Media	Sunday, September 5, 11:59pm **Note: UCF is closed Monday, September 6 to observe Labor Day**
Module Two: Political Psychology and Political Situations	Houghton, Chapter 3/4 Quiz Interactive Discussion: Tabula Rasa	Sunday, September 12, 11:59pm
	Houghton, Chapter 5/6 Quiz Interactive Discussion: Decision Making	Sunday, September 19, 11:59pm
	Analysis: Groupthink	Sunday, September 26, 11:59pm
Module Three: Political Psychology and the Individual	Houghton, Chapter 7/8 Quiz Houghton, Chapter 9/10 Quiz	Sunday, October 3, 11:59pm

	Analysis: Political Psychobiography	Sunday, October 10, 11:59pm
	Houghton, Chapter 11/12 Quiz Interactive Discussion: Presidential Campaigns	Sunday, October 17, 11:59pm
	Houghton, Chapter 13/14 Quiz Analysis: Genocide	Sunday, October 24, 11:59pm
Module Four: Bringing Together the Situation and the Individual	Houghton, Chapter 15/16 Quiz	Sunday, October 31, 11:59pm
	Houghton, Chapter 17/18 Quiz Interactive Discussion: Symbolic Politics	Sunday, November 7, 11:59pm
Module Five: The Politics Psychology of Policy Change	Beland and Waddan, Introduction Quiz Beland and Waddan, Chapter 1 Quiz Interactive Discussion: Welfare Reform	Sunday, November 14, 11:59pm
	Beland and Waddan, Chapter 2 Quiz Beland and Waddan, Chapter 3 Quiz Analysis: Saenz v. Roe	Sunday, November 21, 11:59pm
	No Assignment **Thanksgiving Holiday**	**UCF classes are canceled Wednesday, November 24-28 to observe Thanksgiving**
	Analysis: Social Welfare	Sunday, December 5, 11:59pm
	Interactive Discussion: Medicare Short Activity (optional): Issue Ownership and U.S. Foreign Policy **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.

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.