Syllabus and Schedule
POS 4622-0W60 Politics and Civil Rights

Dr. Terri Susan Fine

Spring 2021

Section	Location	Credit Hours
0W60	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	During SP 2021, the professor will not be available for face-to-face meetings due to limited campus access/COVID-19.
Office Hours	By telephone (407-823-2081): Tuesday, 10:45am-2:45pm Face-to-face appointments via ZOOM are available during office hours By appointment: Face-to-face via ZOOM or telephone at our mutual convenience **Appointments are readily available and flexible—feel free to meet with me as the need arises.**
Phone	407-823-2081 (voicemail not available); please send an e-mail with a number where I may reach you if needed.

Course mail	Available through the "Inbox" function on the course home page (CANVAS menu, on left). Contacting me through the course insures no SPAM and faster responses. Avoid using "Discussions" to send personal messages as discussions may be seen by all course participants
Personal e-mail	terri.fine@ucf.edu **Note:** E-mail to this personal account is to be used for emergencies only (i.e. if you have no CANVAS access); All regular communication must go through the course "Inbox" function. Non-emergency e-mail submitted to my personal account will not receive a response.
Course page	https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1359347

Course Description

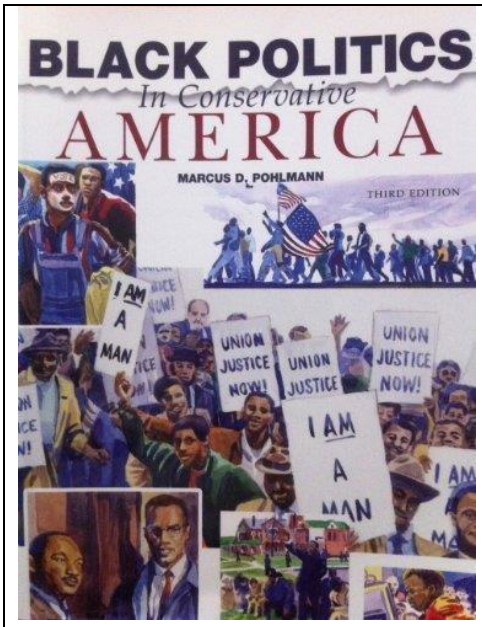
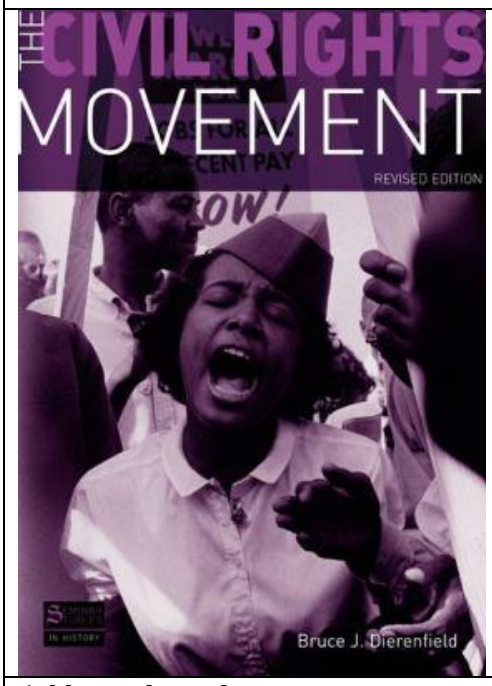
The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the politics of the civil rights experience in the United States since 1865. The course will focus on African Americans and civil rights issues. The civil rights experience has been a long and difficult struggle in the United States. We will explore the nature of that struggle from several perspectives.

By the end of the course, students will be able to look at 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 also explore the political nature of judicial decision making in the context of key U.S. Supreme Court cases as they apply to African Americans. We will also examine key civil rights legislation and the role that key individuals, institutions and organizations play in mobilizing African Americans to promote civil rights protection.

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 issues such as reverse discrimination, majority-minority districting, and political party and campaign politics.

The entire course will be couched in the context of the impact of social and economic conditions on political issues. To that end, we will explore how African Americans and whites differ in their economic and social resources and how those differences impact opportunities for securing political power.

Course Texts:

	*Black Politics in Conservative America* by Marcus Pohlmann, Third Edition, Sloan Educational Publishing, ISBN 978-1597380126 **<u>Be certain to purchase this textbook only and not older or alternate editions.</u>**
	*The Civil Rights Movement* (Revised Edition) by Bruce Dierenfield, Pearson Longman Press, ISBN 978-1405874359 **<u>Be certain to purchase this textbook only and not older or alternate editions.</u>**
Additional Readings	U.S. Supreme Court decisions, government reports, and other additional readings as assigned

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	7	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) in order to be eligible to submit that assignment late. It is the instructor's sole discretion as to whether an assignment extension will be provided.

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	This module includes instructions and materials for completing "Module One: Race and Politics in America"

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	3980-4280	93%
A-	3800-3979	89%
B+	3680-3799	86%
B	3500-3679	82%
B-	3380-3499	79%
C+	3190-3379	75%
C	3100-3189	72%
C-	2950-3099	69%

D+	2800-2949	65%
D	2650-2799	62%
D-	2500-2649	58%
F	2499 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

POS 4622 Politics and Civil Rights
Spring 2021 Schedule

Please 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.

The course is organized around four graded modules that include two or more of: chapter quizzes, interactive discussion, short activity or analysis, described below.

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	Friday, January 15, 11:59pm

	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)**	
Module One: Race and Politics in America	Pohlmann, Chapter 1 Quiz Short Activity: Mayflower Compact	Friday, January 22, 11:59pm
	Pohlmann, Chapter 2 Quiz Short Activity: Interest Group Mission Statements	Friday, January 29, 11:59pm
Module Two: Blacks and the American Political Economy	Pohlmann, Chapter 3 Quiz Analysis: Frederick Douglass and the U.S. Constitution	Friday, February 5, 11:59pm
	Pohlmann, Chapter 4 Quiz Short Activity: Public Opinion and Race Relations	Friday, February 12, 11:59pm
	Pohlmann, Chapter 5 Quiz Interactive Discussion: African Americans in a Post-Industrial Economy	Friday, February 19, 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	Friday, February 26, 11:59pm
	Analysis: Cooper v. Aaron	Friday, March 5, 11:59pm
	Dierenfield, Chapter 5-10 Quiz (Note: Chapters 5-10 are included in one quiz) Analysis: Women and Civil Rights Activism	Friday, March 12, 11:59pm
	Interactive Discussion: School Integration Short Activity: De Facto v. De Jure Segregation	Friday, March 19, 11:59pm
	Dierenfield, Chapter 11-13 Quiz (Note: Chapters 11-13 are included in one quiz) Analysis: Seeking Voting Rights	Friday, March 26, 11:59pm

Module Four: Blacks in American Politics	Pohlmann, Chapter 6 Quiz Analysis: Protesting through the Courts	Friday, April 2, 11:59pm
	Pohlmann, Chapter 7 Quiz Short Activity: Nomination of Thurgood Marshall to the U.S. Supreme Court	Friday, April 9, 11:59pm
	UCF SPRING BREAK	WEEK OF APRIL 12-16
	Polhmann, Chapter 8 Quiz Interactive Discussion: Economic and Political Empowerment	Friday, April 23, 11:59pm
	Analysis: Implementing the Civil Rights Act	Friday, April 30, 11:59pm
Extra Credit This **OPTIONAL** extra credit assignment may be used to make up missed points or to add to your overall score.	Agenda Setting and the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights	Friday, April 30, 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.

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 a course message 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 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.