University of Central Florida
Political Behavior
School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs (ucf.edu)
Spring 2024
POS 4204 Section OW61 online
3 credit hours

Instructor: Dr. Lynne Gleiber
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Office hours: Drop in hour on Zoom will be Tuesdays from 8 – 9 am. Students may also make appointments.
Main office location: HPH 302
I will respond to emails within 48 hours on workdays.

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 individuals. Students will be assigned required readings posted on webcourses which will need to be completed weekly. Participation in module activities 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

Expectations for Student Performance

Course Requirements

Work assignments must be completed on time.

Required readings: All readings will be posted on webcourses and are required for the course.

Grading Distribution

Final grades will be composed as follows:

Examination 1	20%
Examination 2	20%
Final Examination (Not Cumulative)	30%
Weekly activities	30%

Examinations, weekly assignments, and grading

Three exams will be given: two during the semester and one final exam. Questions will be based on information covered in reading material posted in the webcourses module. The completion of weekly assignments is a requirement for the course.

Exams will be given with Respondus Lockdown Browser and Monitoring proctoring software which requires a computer with a camera.

In the interest of fairness to all students, **extra credit work will not be given.** If a student misses an exam or an assignment, they must provide sufficient justification for doing so (e.g. a documented emergency) to qualify for a make-up-exam. If documentation is not provided a make-up exam will not be given. It is the responsibility of the student to contact me (by telephone, voice mail or e-mail) before or within 24 hours of the missed exam to discuss the possibility of being given a make-up exam**.** Make-up exams will be based on same information as the original exams but the format may be different.

Statement on Culture of Inclusion

The University of Central Florida considers the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff to be a strength and critical to its educational mission. UCF expects every member of the university community to be respectful in classrooms, work environments, and at campus events. Dimensions of diversity can include sex, race, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, intellectual and physical ability, sexual orientation, income, faith and non-faith perspectives, socio-economic class, political ideology, education, primary language, family status, military experience, cognitive style, and communication style. The individual intersection of these experiences and characteristics must be valued in our community.

Title IX

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options Home - UCF Let's Be Clear and UCF Cares • UCF

- Title IX – OIE – Office of Institutional Equity - Home (ucf.edu) and askanadvocate@ucf.edu
- Student Accessibility Services • UCF
- Diversity and Inclusion Training and Events
- University Compliance, Ethics, and Risk (ucf.edu) & complianceandethics@ucf.edu
- Ombuds Office (ucf.edu)

Religious Observance

Students must notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class for a religious observance. For more information, see the UCF policy at <http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALJan19

The table below shows the range for each letter grade and uses a plus/minus system.

Letter Grade and points

A	100 %	to 94.0%
A-	< 94.0 %	to 90.0%
B+	< 90.0 %	to 87.0%
B	< 87.0 %	to 84.0%
B-	< 84.0 %	to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0 %	to 77.0%
C	< 77.0 %	to 74.0%
C-	< 74.0 %	to 70.0%
D+	< 70.0 %	to 67.0%
D	< 67.0 %	to 64.0%
D-	< 64.0 %	to 61.0%
F	< 61.0 %	to 0.0%

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 they decide not to complete it. Students who discontinue participation, and do not withdraw will fail the course.

Course Accessibility

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need specific access in this course, such as accommodations, should contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss various access options. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (Ferrell Commons, 7F, Room 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. Once Student Disability Services has been contacted, I am happy to make any arrangements needed by my students.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Course Schedule		
Module 1: Political Behavior Essentials		
8-Jan	**Week 1**	*An Economic Theory of Democracy* by Anthony Downs Part 1 - Weekly assignment will open on Wednesday and is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.
15	**Week 2**	*The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion* by John Zaller (excerpt) - Weekly assignment is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.
22	**Week 3**	"Mass Political Attitudes and the Survey Response" Christopher H. Achen Weekly assignment is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.
29	**Week 4**	*The American Voter*, Angus Campbell, Philip E. Converse, Warren E. Miller, and Donald E. Stokes (excerpt) Exam 1 will be available from Wed - Fri and is due by 11:59 pm on Friday. The exam will lock at 11:59 pm on Friday
Module 2: Equality, Participation, and Public Opinion		
5-Feb	**Week 5**	“Race, Ethnicity, and Political Resources” - Weekly assignment is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.

12	**Week 6**	“Groups and Policy Interests” - Weekly assignment is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.
19	**Week 7**	“Citizen Activity: Who participates, what do they say?” - Weekly assignment is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.
26	**Week 8**	“Spiral of Silence” - Weekly assignment is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.
4-Mar	**Week 9**	Group Characteristics and Social Networks - Exam 2 will be available from Wed - Fri and is due by 11:59 pm on Friday. The exam will lock at 11:59 pm on Friday
Module 3: Media Influence, Social Determinants, and Social Movements		
11-Mar	**Week 10**	Media impact on perception
18-Jan	**Week 11**	SPRING BREAK
25	**Week 12**	Vote Choice and Electoral Decisions – Weekly assignment is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.
1-Apr	**Week 13**	Women's Suffrage and Black Liberation- Weekly assignment is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.
8	**Week 14**	Historical and Current Social Movements in Response to Economic Hardship - Weekly assignment is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.

15	**Week 15**	Message Music and Social Change - Weekly assignment is due by Friday at 11:59 pm. It will be locked at 11:59pm.
22	**Week 16**	April 22 is the last day of the semester. The final exam will be available from April 24 - 26. It will close at 11:59pm on April 26th.