# POS 4204 - POLITICAL BEHAVIOR

**Section:** 0W60

*College of Sciences*

School of Politics, Security, and Intl Affairs

## Course Information

**Term:** Fall 2024
**Class Meeting Location:**
**Modality:** WW
**Credit Hours:** 3.00

## Instructor Information

Lynne Gleiber, PhD
**Office Location:** Howard Phillips Hall
**Office Hours:**
Drop in Zoom - Tuesdays from 8-9 am and by appointment
**Email:** Lynne.Gleiber@ucf.edu

## Course Description

POS 4204 COS-POLS 3(3,0)Political Behavior: PR: POS 2041 or C.I. Mass political behavior, concentrating on voting and participation, primarily in the United States. Occasional.

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.

## Student Learning 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

## Course Materials and Resources

**All course readings are posted on Canvass.**

## Course Assessment and Grading Procedure

Final grades will be composed of the following:

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

## Assignment Schedule

| Due Date | Assignment Name | Assignment Type | Points |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8/22 | Academic Activity | Assignment | 0 |
| 8/24 | Week 1 \| An Economic Theory of Democracy | Discussion | 100 |

| Due Date | Assignment Name | Assignment Type | Points |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8/30 | Week 2 \| The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion | Quiz | 100 |
| 9/6 | Week 3 \| Achen discussion | Discussion | 100 |
| 9/13 | Exam #1 - Requires Respondus LockDown Browser + Webcam | Quiz | 100 |
| 9/13 | Week 5 \| Verba et al. article - Race, Ethnicity and Political Resources | Discussion | 100 |
| 9/20 | Week 6 \| Interest groups | Discussion | 100 |
| 9/27 | Week 7 \| Who participates, what do they say? | Discussion | 100 |
| 10/13 | Exam 2 - Requires Respondus LockDown Browser + Webcam | Quiz | 100 |
| 10/13 | Week 8 \| Spiral of Silence | Assignment | 100 |
| 10/18 | Week 10 \| Pictures and Media Choices | Discussion | 100 |
| 11/1 | Week 12 - Vote Choice and Electoral Decisions | Discussion | 100 |
| 11/8 | Week 13 Discussion | Discussion | 100 |

| Due Date | Assignment Name | Assignment Type | Points |
|---|---|---|---|
| 11/15 | Week 14 | Current Social Movements in response to economic hardship | Discussion | 100 |
| 11/22 | Week 14 - Message Music and Social Change | Discussion | 100 |
| 12/4 | Final Exam - Fall 2024 - Requires Respondus LockDown Browser + Webcam | Quiz | 100 |

## Grading Scale

| Letter Grade | Percentage |
|---|---|
| A | 94-100% |
| A- | 90-93% |
| B+ | 87-89% |
| B | 84-86% |
| B- | 80-83% |
| C+ | 77-79% |
| C | 74-76% |
| C- | 70-73% |
| D+ | 67-69% |
| D | 64-66% |
| D- | 61-63% |
| F | 0-60% |

## Policies for Course Grade

### Makeup Work Policy

### Missed/Late Assignments

If a student misses an exam, 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 e-mail) before or immediately after the missed exam to discuss the possibility of taking a make-up exam**.**

Assignments up to one week late are accepted but will incur a 10% reduction of the grade.

Assignments more than one week late are not accepted.

In the interest of fairness to all students, **extra credit work will not be given.**

### Attendance

Weekly engagement in course modules is expected.

## Course Accessibility

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need access to course content due to course design limitations 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). For students connected with SAS, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential course access and accommodations that might be necessary and 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. Further conversation with SAS, faculty and the student may be warranted to ensure an accessible course experience.

## Academic Integrity

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct at Student Conduct and Integrity Office. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:

1. 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.
2. Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
3. 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.
4. Falsifying or misrepresenting the student's own academic work.
5. 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.
6. Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
7. Helping another violate academic behavior standards.
8. Soliciting assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements.

**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 respond to academic misconduct when necessary. Penalties for violating rules, policies, and instructions within this course can range from a zero on the exercise to an "F" letter grade in the course. In addition, an Academic

Misconduct report could be filed with the Office of Student Conduct, which could lead to disciplinary warning, disciplinary probation, or deferred suspension or separation from the University through suspension, dismissal, or expulsion with the addition of a “Z” designation on one’s transcript.

Being found in violation of academic conduct standards could result in a student having to disclose such behavior on a graduate school application, being removed from a leadership position within a student organization, the recipient of scholarships, participation in University activities such as study abroad, internships, etc.

Let’s avoid all of this by demonstrating values of honesty, trust, and integrity. No grade is worth compromising your integrity and moving your moral compass. Stay true to doing the right thing: take the zero, not a shortcut.

## 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 at Let's Be Clear and UCF Cares.

For more information on diversity and inclusion, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF’s complaint processes contact:

- Title IX – OIE – Office of Institutional Equity & askanadvocate@ucf.edu
- Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services – Student Accessibility Services & sas@ucf.edu
- Diversity and Inclusion Training and Events – Office of the VP for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- UCF Compliance and Ethics Office – Compliance, Ethics, and Risk Office & complianceandethics@ucf.edu
- The Ombuds Office is a safe place to discuss concerns.

## Reporting an Incident or Issue

If you believe you have experienced abusive or discriminatory behavior by any faculty of staff member, contact the Office of Institutional Equity online or at 407-823-1336. You can also choose to report using the UCF Integrity Line and can report anonymously or as yourself at 1-855-877-6049 or using the online form. UCF cares about you and takes every report seriously. For more information see the Reporting an Incident or Issue Webpage.

## 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.

## Campus Safety

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 Safety
- 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 AED Locations.
- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to RAVE Mobile Safety and logging in. On the "My Account" tab, fill out the information, including e-mail address and cell phone number.

- 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 from the UCF Police Department, You CAN Survive an Active Shooter.

**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 RAVE Mobile Security and logging in. On the “My Account” tab, fill out the information, including e-mail address and cell phone number.
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructor outside of class.

## Financial Aid Accountability

All instructors/faculty are required to document students’ academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete this activity by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

## Class Schedule

| Week | Topic |
|---|---|
| 1 | **Part 1: Political Behavior Essentials**<br>*An Economic Theory of Democracy* by Anthony Downs Part 1 |
| 2 | *The Nature and Origins of Mass Opinion* by John Zaller (excerpt) |
| 3 | "Mass Political Attitudes and the Survey Response" Christopher H. Achen |

| Week | Topic |
| --- | --- |
| 4 | *The American Voter*, Angus Campbell, Philip E. Converse, Warren E. Miller, and Donald E. Stokes (excerpt) |
| 5 | **Part 2 Equality, Participation, and Public Opinion**<br>Demographics and Political Resources: an article by Sidney Verba, Kay Lehman Schlozman, Henry Brady, and Norman H. Nie |
| 6 | "Continuing the Collective Action Dilemma: The Survival of Voluntary Associations in the United States" by Shaun Bevan |
| 7 | "Citizen Activity: Who participates, What do they say?"<br>by Sidney Verba, Kay Lehman Schlozman, Henry Brady, and Norman H. Nie |
| 8 | "Spiral of Silence" (excerpt) by Elizabeth Noelle Neuman |
| 9 | Group Characteristics and Social Networks |
| 10 | **Part 3: Media Influence, Social Determinants, and Social Movements Media Impact on Perception**<br>"Say it With Pictures" by Doris Graber |
| 11 | "Public Opinion: The Beginning of Ideology" by William Schneider |
| 12 | Suffrage, Liberation, and Social Movements |
| 13 | Historic and Current Social Movements in Response to Economic Hardship |
| 14 | Movement music |
| 15 | Final exam is available from Monday, December 2 - Wednesday, December 4 |