

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1-4:30
Social Sciences II, rm. 167
UCSC Summer Session 2, 2015

POLI 1
**Introduction to Politics:
Power, Principle, Process, and Policy**

Instructor: Felicia Peck

fpeck@ucsc.edu

Office: Merrill 133, Fridays 11am-1pm (or by appointment)

Course Description and Objectives

This course is a broad introduction to the nature and study of politics and government. At the end of this course students should be able to describe and identify political *principles* (e.g. ideologies) and *processes* (e.g. different forms of government and governance) and relate them to *policy* (government actions and decisions) and political *power* (means of political struggle). Put in more practical terms, this course familiarizes students with the basic knowledge of the discipline, preparing them both for upper division politics courses. More generally, students should leave this course ready to engage in sophisticated political conversations outside of the classroom. This course fulfills UCSC General Education Codes PE-H (perspectives on human behavior) and IS (intro to disciplines).

Readings and Handouts

The required textbook, Politics, 4th edition, by Andrew Heywood (Palgrave), is available for sale at the university bookstore (and online). Due to the small size of this summer class, it is NOT available on reserve at the library. The other required readings will be available through the course website on the university's eCommons (<https://ecommons.ucsc.edu/xsl-portal>), under "resources" or as web-links. Please print these out so that you can mark them up as you read, or access them via an electronic format that easily allows for annotation. The eCommons website will occasionally host other resources such as syllabus updates, resources for written assignments, and study guides.

The instructor may make adjustments to this syllabus (e.g. adding a reading that would clarify questions that have come up during discussions, or covering readings on slightly later or earlier depending on how quickly we make it through the material in class). Adjustments will be announced in lecture.

Grade Determination

- 1) Two papers (20% each)
- 2) Midterm Exam (20%)
- 3) Final Exam (30%)
- 4) Participation (10%)

Expectations and Class Policies

Lectures presume knowledge of the readings. Each student is expected to have done the **required reading prior to class** and to be prepared to participate with specific reference to the readings. The readings are listed on the course calendar (see below). Films are also listed on the course calendar, and will be shown during class time.

Daily contact with credible or critical **news** sources, such as the *New York Times*, *This Week Tonight*, or *National Public Radio*, is recommended and will help you to be fully engaged in this class (and to be an engaged human being in the world).

No use of cell phones or other personal electronic devices is allowed during class, as they too often pose a risk of distracting others in the classroom, the instructor, or their user. Please turn off and put away these devices before class begins. An exception will be made for the use of a device exclusively for taking notes related to this class. Please let me know if another person's use of electronics during class is inappropriate and posing a distraction. If your electronic device distracts the instructor or another student, you will be asked to refrain entirely for the remainder of your time in the course. If there is a legitimate reason you must be accessible on your cell phone during class (e.g. you are a parent and need to be available in case your child's care-giver needs to reach you), please let me know and an exception will be made. If you would like to know more about the rationale for this electronics policy, please read this: <http://mediashift.org/2014/09/why-clay-shirky-banned-laptops-tablets-and-phones-from-his-classroom/>

Due to the small number of times we meet, **attendance** in this course is extremely important, (missing one class session during this summer course is the equivalent of missing an entire week during a regular quarter). Not only is good attendance necessary for good participation, but we may cover material in class that is not found in the readings (but may, nevertheless, end up on an exam). In dire circumstances, if you are unable to make it to class, please notify the instructor and be sure to get notes from another student on what you missed. Your **participation** grade is based upon your **presence** (in multiple respects) during class, including your engagement with, and respect toward, all members of the class and the readings. An optional, additional mode of participation: You may continue class discussions, or post questions/reactions to the readings in our eCommons *Chat Room*- a forum that can be read by the class as a whole. Please give your comments in this forum the same thoughtfulness you would in the classroom.

Please notify the instructor during the first week of classes if you need to make disability related **accommodations**. I am happy to coordinate this with the Disability Resource Center.

Other Resources

Academic advising, the Disability Resource Center, Learning Support Services, and CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services) are all open and available to support you this summer.

Course Calendar

Tuesday July 28: Introductions

Syllabus

Film: *An Enemy of the People* (1966)

Available to stream online, with a transcript, through the UCSC library website. Note: You must login for library access through your account to view the film from off-campus.

Thursday July 30: Defining Politics, Democracy, Legitimacy, the Policy Process

Politics 2-10; 80-106; 351-361

AAAS, "What We Know: The Reality, Risks And Response To Climate Change" at: http://whatweknow.aaas.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/whatweknow_website.pdf

Rousseau, J.-J. (1762) Book II, Chapter III: "Whether the General Will can Err" in, The Social Contract.

(Many versions of the entirety of this book are available online, through the library or as a google book, but the selection I'm asking you to read is **only one page**, and posted as a pdf on eCommons.)

Tuesday August 4: State, Nation, Multilevel Politics

Politics 56-72; 108-115; 123-126; 378-397

Scott, J. C. (1998). Seeing Like a State: How certain Schemes to improve the human condition have failed. New Haven, Yale University. (Excerpt)

Hobbes, T. (1651). Leviathan. (Excerpt)

Thursday August 6: Political Systems, Representation, Parties and Party Systems

Politics 265-282; 196-219; 221-241

Downs, A. (1957). An Economic Theory of Democracy, Harper Collins. (Excerpt)

Putnam, R. D. (1993). Making Democracy Work: Civic traditions in modern Italy. Princeton, Princeton University Press. (Excerpt)

* Paper 1 due

Tuesday August 11

*Midterm exam

Film: *Treasure of the Sierra Madre* (1948)

Thursday August 13: Studying Politics, Political Ideals and Ideologies,

Politics 12-25; 30-54; 11

Deborah A. Stone, *Policy Paradox* (chapter 1)

Tuesday August 18: Executives, Assemblies, the Judiciary, Bureaucracy

Politics 284-300; 309-326; 344-349; 361-368

Betty Friedan, "The Problem That Has No Name" from *The Feminine Mystique* (1963).

Available at: <http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org/ows/seminars/tcentury/FeminineMystique.pdf>

Schulte, B. (2014). *Overwhelmed: Work, love, and play when no one has the time*. (Excerpt)

Thursday August 20: Interests, Society and Identity, the Media

Politics 244-263; 151-169; 178-194

*Paper 2 Due

Tuesday August 25: Political Economy, Global Politics, Security

Politics 128-149; 421-441; 399-419

Thursday August 27

*Final Exam