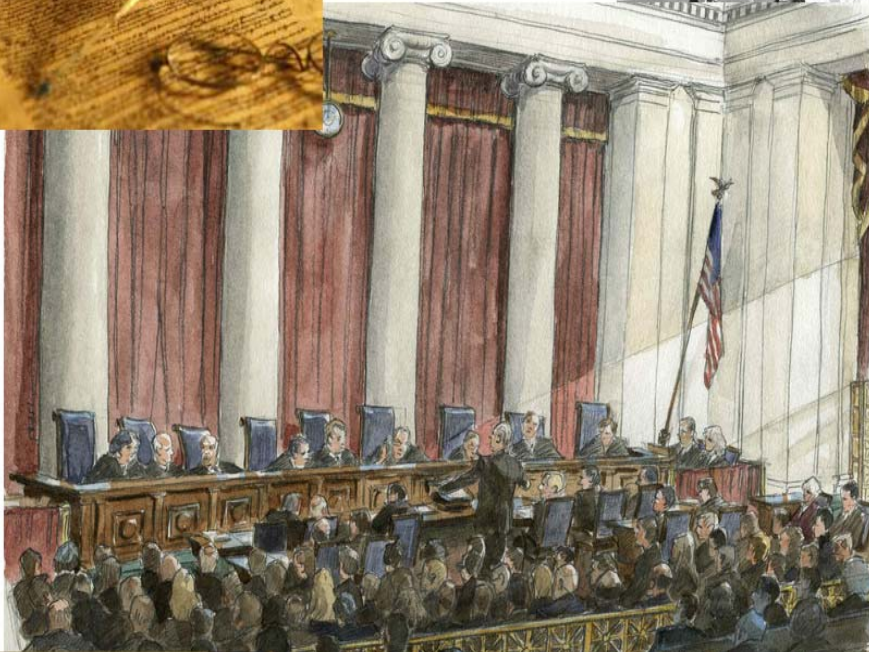


UNITED STATES NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Political Science 1100-005



Syllabus & Requirements | D. Porter Morgan
Building 73 Room 107

January 3rd- January 8th

8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Contact Information

Email: dportermorgan@gmail.com

Office/Office Hours: OSH 156A (TBA) no office hours during the intensive week, but afterward office hours will be regularly scheduled or by appointment

Course Philosophy

Education and knowledge of the government allows us to utilize accountability mechanisms in our government. Politics engage people on a daily basis in innumerable ways, whether or not they are aware of the means, implementation and consequences of law and policy. Political science allows us theoretical and practical means by which we can engage politics. Our task in this course is to demystify as much of the theory and practice of American Politics as possible. One of the largest overarching goals of this course is to elevate our current level of knowledge of politics to become better-informed citizens, members of the electorate and participants in the political process. Education and knowledge of the government allows us to identify, discuss and perhaps change politics.

Objectives

1. We will learn social science theory to approach, analyze and evaluate American politics.
2. We will challenge our own positions concerning politics.
3. We will deconstruct American governmental institutions to understand the functions and dysfunctions of politics.

4. We will examine institutions and groups outside of the government to grasp American politics from a wider perspective.
5. We will reinforce the value of discussing politics in diverse groups that disagree with one another's positions.

Required Texts

Theodore J. Lowi, Benjamin Ginsberg, Kenneth A. Shepsle, and Stephen Ansolabehere, *American Government: Power and Purpose*, 13th Core Edition (without policy chapters), W.W. Norton, 2013 (ISBN 978-0-393-92245-5). I will use the short hand "P&P" for power and purpose to reference this book

Students **must** have their texts prior to class. It is required that students read multiple chapters from the textbook before they attend the first day of class. The campus bookstore will have these prior to class. I recommend having your book one week before class begins.

CANVAS

ESSENTIAL: Learn how to navigate CANVAS before class begins. It will be a skill that assists you throughout college. We will use CANVAS for the following essential coursework, though there may be other uses throughout semester:

- Assignment descriptions
- Reading quizzes
- A study guide for the midterm/final
- Grades and Comments on your papers
- Announcements
- Etc.

There may be technical problems with CANVAS. Let me know if there are any issues as soon as possible.

For network issues you can contact Campus IT:
Campus IT Help Desk URL:
<http://it.utah.edu/services/helpDesk/index.html>
Campus IT Help Desk Phone: 801-581-4000 option 1

Other Required Materials

You will need (2) two Blue Books found that can be purchased at the campus bookstore for the midterm and final respectively.

At times I will ask students to use their phones/devices for class room activities, however if anyone does not have access to such devices, then their participation grade will not be negatively affected.

Readings, Assignments, Participation, Exams, and Grading

Grade Breakdown

Reading Quizzes 14%

Paper Assignments 30%

Midterm Examination 15%

Final Examination 30%

Participation 11%

Extra Credit- a maximum of 12 points (not percentage points) added to your final examination

Readings

Readings must be done prior to class. The textbook readings are a necessary foundation for classroom discussion. The assigned articles and readings will be the centerpiece of discussion on the most important subjects discussed in class. They must be read for you reading quizzes and participation. I suggest you take notes on the

chapters (or at least annotate your textbook) to make the reading quizzes more manageable.

Assignments

There will be a single three-part political writing assignment. This will be discussed in class, however the concept behind this assignment is opposition research. NO ELECTRONIC COPIES, I WILL ACCEPT ONLY PAPER COPIES OF YOUR PAPERS

Grade Breakdown for the paper assignment

30% Total- 5% Passion Paper, 10% Opposition Research, 15% Reverse Opposition- Formatting will be included on assignment sheets/announcements

1. Passion Paper: Pick on issue that makes you angry, ecstatic, disgusted and write a 1-page paper with at least 3 supporting statements for your position. Due Wednesday the 6th of January at the end of class
2. Opposition Research: Take statement you made in your first paper and prove it wrong. Your thesis for this statement for this paper will be the opposite of your Passion Paper. Every statement you made is wrong according to this assignment. Due Thursday the 8th of January at the end of class.
3. Reverse Opposition: You sharpen your original thesis with the information from your Opposition Research paper. Contend against your Opposition Research paper's findings statement by statement, therefore creating a strong passionate political position. Due the 12th of January 5:00p at my office OSH 156A (slide it under the door if its closed)

Examinations

Examinations will account for a total of 45% of your grade. Details on test format will be given during class as well as study guides. The examinations will be taken during class sessions at the end of Wednesday and Friday.

Participation

Participation in an intensive course is mandatory and unexcused absence is severely punished. Missing a day is equivalent to missing weeks of class. Attendance will be taken daily. Missing an entire session will result in no participation points for the course. Should emergencies occur, communicating with me is the best way to salvage your participation score and I will happily work with you. Late attendance or leaving early will be reflected heavily in your participation score.

Extra credit

There will likely be no extra credit during the week session, however during the entire spring semester the Hinckley Institute of Politics brings academics, ambassadors and writers from all over the world to speak to the University of Utah students. You may gain up to 12 extra credit points (applied to your final) by attending an entire session at the Hinckley Institute and writing a 1 page opinion paper on what you learned and how the session made you a more informed student.

Grade Break Down

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| % = Grade | 87-89% = B+ | 77-79% = C+ | 67-69+ = D+ |
| 100-93% = A | 83-86% = B | 73-76% = C | 63-66% = D |
| 90-92% = A- | 80-82% = B- | 70-72% = C- | 60-62% = D- |

Class Policies

Porter is reasonable: The preeminent and first rule is that I am reasonable and will work with any student over any policy, any misunderstanding and help whenever I am able. Communication (I prefer face to face) with me can resolve a lot of issues, reduce your anxiety and support your education.

Food and Drink: Food and drink will be permitted so long as they are not distracting i.e. potato chips, an entire extra value meal (smell), loud packaging. Also, keep in mind, we have regular breaks, discussion sessions and an hour for lunch.

Policy on Late Papers, Unsubmitted Work and Incompletes: Papers will be accepted until 5 pm on the date due. Failure to complete any assignment will result in failure of the course. A grade of Incomplete is only available in cases of documented emergency or medical condition. Papers must be submitted through Canvas as MS Word compatible files.

Academic Misconduct: All quotes must be cited as such and include a clear reference to the work from which they were drawn; they will otherwise be treated as plagiarism. All use of materials other than course materials must be accompanied by full citations. All work in this course is assigned as individual work; working as groups or teams is strongly discouraged (and may be treated as cheating), as is all but the most casual assistance from others; this includes parents, spouses and other family members. Any form of academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the course and other disciplinary action, up to expulsion from the University.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Wellness Statement: Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness - www.wellness.utah.edu; 801-581-7776.

Veterans Center

If you are a student veteran, I want you to know that the U of Utah has a Veterans Support Center on campus. They are located in Room 161 in the Olpin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm. Please visit their website for more information about what support they offer, a list of ongoing events and links to outside resources: <http://veteranscenter.utah.edu/>. Please also let me know if you need any additional support in this class for any reason.

LGBT Resource Center

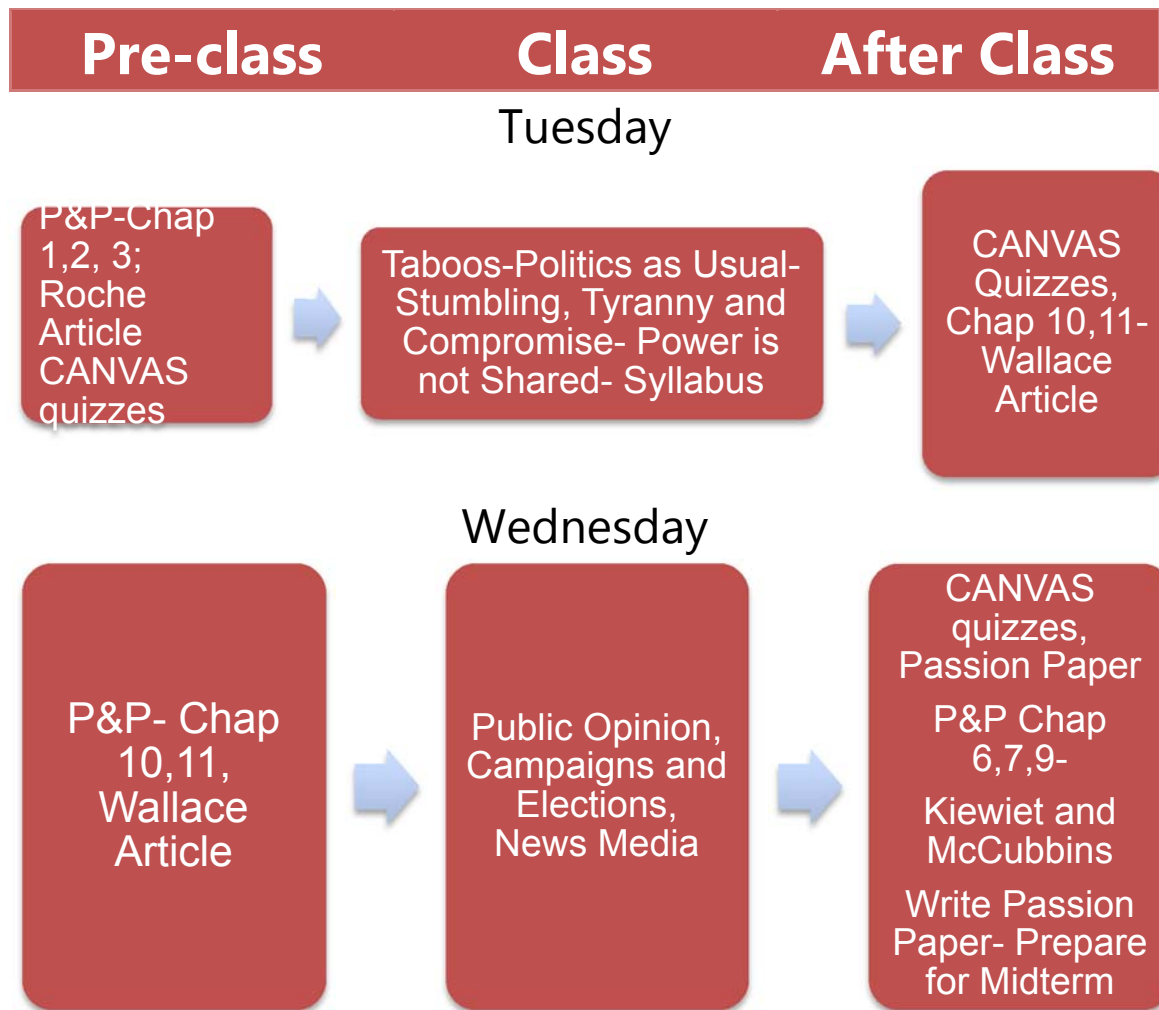
If you are a member of the LGBTQ community, I want you to know that my classroom is a safe zone*. Additionally, please know that the U of Utah has an LGBT Resource Center on campus. They are located in Room 409 in the Oplin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm. You can visit their website to find more information about the support they can offer, a list of events through the center and links to additional resources: <http://lgbt.utah.edu/>. Please also let me know if there is any additional support you need in this class.

Learners of English as an Additional/Second Language

If you are an English language learner, please be aware of several resources on campus that will support you with your language development and writing. These resources include: the Department of Linguistics ESL Program (<http://linguistics.utah.edu/esl-program/>); the Writing Center (<http://writingcenter.utah.edu/>); the Writing Program (<http://writing-program.utah.edu/>); the English Language Institute (<http://continue.utah.edu/eli/>). Please let me know if there is any additional support you would like to discuss for this class.

Before your first day of class, you must read the first three chapters and an article found on the course (Roche) CANVAS page.

Reading and Assignment Schedule



Pre-class

Class

After Class

Thursday

P&P- Chap
11,12,17(17
is found on
CANVAS)-
Passion
Paper



Political
Parties,
Interest
Groups
Foreign
Policy
Midterm



CANVAS
quizzes,
Opposition
Research
Paper, Read
Chap 6,7,9

Friday

Opposition
Research
Paper,
Read Chap
6,7,9



Branches of
Government,
Myths of SoP



CANVAS
quizzes -
P&P 4,5,16
Prepare for
Final

Saturday

CANVAS
quiz P&P 4,5,16
Prepare for
Final



Civil Liberties,
Civil Rights,
Social Policy
Final



Reverse
Opposition
Research
Paper Due
Monday 5:00p

Paper copy of Reverse Opposition Research Paper due Monday
5:00 pm at my office.

Amazing! You are done! Thank you!