

Political Science 235.01, CID 4322, 3 credit hours

Prerequisite: POL 261

Fall 2007

Dr. Waggener

Class Location/Time: ABI 302, MWF 10:00 – 10:50
Office Location: AB1 319B
Office Phone/Email/Fax: (936) 294-1466, pol_taw@shsu.edu, (936) 294-4172
Office Hours: 2:00-4:30 MWF or by appointment

Course Description

A study of political theory, behavior, beliefs, and public policy as they relate to race, ethnicity, gender, class, and sexuality in the United States

Course Objectives

The course has three primary objectives: students will learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view; students will acquire an interest in learning more by asking their own questions and seeking answers; and students will learn how to find and use resources for answering questions and solving problems.

Course Themes

The broad themes addressed in this course include: the roles race, gender, class, ethnicity, and sexuality play in American government, politics, and public policies as well as current political issues relevant to race, gender, class, ethnicity, and sexuality.

Required Readings

David M Newman, *Identities and Inequalities: Exploring the Intersections of Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality*. (McGraw Hill 2007 ISBN-13: 978-0-07-312406-3)

Class Format

The class format will be a mixture of lecture and student participation. During class discussions, we will not assume that there is a “correct” position on a particular political issue, but rather that there are multiple positions all of which must be considered. Thus students are strongly encouraged to arrive at their own political opinions. However, students must arrive at their opinions through active debate and informed reasoning. “Off the cuff” political opinions are not credible or productive to class learning.

Exams and Grading

Exams

There will be three multiple choice exams based on lectures and readings. Each exam is weighted equally.

Grading

Final course grades will be based on the following grading scale: 100 – 90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D, 59-0=F

Make-Up Exams

Make-up exams will be granted to students who can provide formal documentation of a medical or family emergency. If a student fails to provide this documentation, he or she will receive a zero on the exam. Please note that visitation slips issued by the University Health Center are not considered formal documentation, unless the slip clearly indicates that the student was too ill to attend class. Make up exams will be short answer exams.

Extra Credit

Under **NO** circumstances will extra credit be offered in this course.

Scored Scantron Sheets

Students must keep their scored scantron sheets. A student cannot challenge their grade unless he or she has copies of all scantron sheets.

Class Attendance

Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student enrolled in this course.

Class Policies

Please see <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus> for class policies regarding: Academic Dishonesty, Classroom Rules of Conduct, Student Absences on Religious Holy Days, Students with Disabilities Policy, and Visitors in the Classroom. Please see <http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html> for classroom rules of conduct.

Instructor Evaluations

Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Class Schedule

Please note that the class schedule is tentative and may be subject to change.

Identities

Aug 20 – 24	Chapter 1
Aug 27 – 29	Chapter 2
Aug 31	Class does not meet. Students will complete an online assignment
Sep 3	Labor Day Holiday
Sep 5 - 7	Chapter 2 continued
Sep 10 – 21	Chapter 3
<i>Sep 24</i>	<i>Exam 1</i>

Inequalities

Sep 24 – Oct 5	Chapter 4
Oct 8 – 19	Chapter 5
Oct 22 – Nov 2	Chapter 6
<i>Nov 5</i>	<i>Exam 2</i>
Nov 7 – 9	Class does not meet. Students will complete an online assignment
Nov 12 – 16	Chapter 7
<i>Nov 20 – 23</i>	<i>Thanksgiving Holiday</i>
Nov 26 – 30	Chapter 7 continued
Dec 3 – 7	Chapter 8

Final exam week is Dec 10 – 13. Please see SHSU homepage final exam schedule for information about the time and date for the final exam. The take home exam will be due on the final exam date listed for this course.

