

POL 111: Politics

September 2007

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Main Topics:

1. Political Thought
2. American Politics
3. Politics Among Nations

Required Readings:

1. Supplement
2. Machiavelli's The Prince
3. Communist Manifesto

Extra Notes:

****WARNING****- The first week of class will include a very large amount of reading. Please pace yourself accordingly and try to read ahead as possible.

***Honor Code:** I expect everything you do to be your own work. If there are any questions about correct citations, you should consult me or the writing center. Anything that hints of plagiarism will be turned in for academic review.

***ADA:** If you have a disability and need special assistance, please let me know so that we can make appropriate arrangements.

***General Rules for Discussion:** Much of our class will be thought-based and opinion-provoking. Please be respectful of your classmates' views. Remember, you may challenge another person's *argument*, but not the person. Use reason and not emotion in your thoughts and arguments.

***15-Day Drop Policy:** In order to be eligible for the 15-day drop, students should be present at every class meeting and should have done all of the assigned work.

***Attendance Policy:** Students are not expected to miss class as we will be covering so much material in a short time. If you are sick or will need to miss, please contact me through e-mail or by phone.

***Laptop Policy:** Because of the potential distraction, laptops are not to be used during class. If you have a medical need for computer assistance, please let me know.

****Please note,** for each class, a student will be assigned to do a short presentation on two philosophers or world leaders. I will do the first two on Plato and Socrates as a model. In our first class, you will choose two leaders.

***Contact-** Please e-mail me at: bbowman@cornellcollege.edu I check my e-mail often. You may also call me any day before 10 PM at #319-480-3740. Also, if you would like to make a separate appointment time for questions or extra help, please let me know.

1st WEEK: POLITICAL THOUGHT

Monday,

- 9-10: Introductions; Syllabus/Requirements Explanation
Discuss Concepts of Justice; Discuss Plato and the early philosophers/history;
Watch Introductory movie on Peloponnesian War if Time
- 10-11: Library Training
- A. *Report on Plato.* **Bowman**
 - B. *Report on Socrates.* **Bowman**

Homework for Tuesday:

1. *Supplement: Classics of Western Philosophy (Plato), Pgs. 118, 120- 121, 126-133, 154, 160-163*
2. *Supplement: Peloponnesian War by Thucydides, The Crawley Translation, Pgs. Vii-xiv, xxviii-xxix, 108-111, 158-167, 171- 176*
3. *Report on Thucydides.* _____
4. *Report on Homer.* _____
5. *Report on Herodotus.* _____

Tuesday,

- 9-11: Wrap-Up Plato Discussion
Finish Peloponnesian War Movie
Discussion Thucydides: Peloponnesian War

Homework for Wednesday:

1. *The Prince by Machiavelli (Introduction, Pgs. Vii- xxxi, Dedicatory Letter, pgs 3-4, Chapters I, II, III, V, VI, VIII, IX, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XX, XXI, XXIII.)*
2. *Report on Machiavelli.* _____

Wednesday,

- 1-3: Discuss Machiavelli's: The Prince
Discuss Paper Writing Tips

Homework:

1. *Supplement: Kant: Political Writings: "Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Purpose," and "Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch" by Kant, Pgs. 41-60, 93-105.*
2. *Supplement: Classics of Western Philosophy: "Utilitarianism," by Mills, Pgs. 1015- 1026, 1037-1041*
3. *Report on Kant* _____
4. *Report on John Stuart Mill.* _____
5. *Report on Adam Smith.* _____

Thursday,

- 9-10:45: (Dismiss at 10:45 for Convocation)
- Discuss Kant: Perpetual Peace. Brief Discussion Rousseau.

- Discuss Mills: Utilitarianism

Homework:

1. **Supplement: Classics of Modern Political Theory: “Wealth of Nations,” by Adam Smith Pgs. 531-533 and 537-539.**
2. **Communist Manifesto (Introduction and Chapters I, II, and IV).**
3. **Supplement: Manifesto: Three Classic Essays on How to Change the World, Pgs 169-171**
4. **Supplement: Politics in a Changing World by Ethridge and Handelman, Pgs 46-47**
5. **Report on Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. _____**
6. **Report on “Che” Guevara. _____**
7. **Report on Rosa Luxemburg. _____**

Friday,

9-11:

- Writing Center Presentation
- Discuss Adam Smith: Wealth of Nations
- Discuss Marx and Engel: Communist Manifesto

Homework:

1. **Supplement: Averroes’ Commentary on Plato’s Republic, Rosenthal Pgs 111-122**
2. **Supplement: Freedom and Unity: Uhuru na Umoja, by Julius K. Nyerere Pgs. 162-171**
3. **Report on Averroes/ Ibn Rushd. _____**
4. **Report on Julius K. Nyerere. _____**
5. **Write Paper Outline for First Paper**

2nd WEEK: AMERICAN POLITICS

Monday,

9-11: ***PAPER OUTLINE FOR FIRST PAPER DUE***

- Discuss Averroes
- Discuss Nyerere
- More on African, Islamic Political Thought

Homework:

1. **Write Paper**

Tuesday,

1-3:

- Questions About Paper
- Founders
- Federalist Papers
- Basics of the Constitution
- Basics of Law

Homework:

1. **Write Paper!**

Wednesday,

1-3: FIRST PAPERS DUE AT 1:00

- Recent U.S. elections and their ramifications;
- Understanding the Electoral College
- International Reaction to U.S. elections and politics.
- Potential 2008 Candidates
- Explanation of how to synopsise a judicial decision

Homework (FOR FRIDAY):

1. **Supplement: Constitutional Law, by Sullivan and Gunther, “Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer [The Steel Seizure Case],” Pgs. 344-354**
2. **Supplement: Constitutional Law, by Sullivan and Gunther, “South Dakota v. Dole,” Pgs. 230-235**
3. **Report on Chief Justice John Roberts. _____**

Thursday,

9-11:30

- Field Trip to Court and Jail

Friday,

9-11:

- Checks and Balances
- “Steel Seizure Case”
- “South Dakota v. Dole”

Homework:

1. **Supplement: Constitutional Law, by Sullivan and Gunther, “United States v. Lopez,” Pgs. 152-166**
2. **Supplement: Constitutional Law: 2005 Supplement, by Sullivan and Gunther “Gonzalez v. Raich” Pgs. 1-11**
3. **Report on House Majority Leader Nancy Pelosi of California. _____**

3rd WEEK: POLITICS AMONG NATIONS

Monday,

9-11: **SECOND SHORT PAPER RESPONSE DUE AT 9:00!**

- Continue Discussion on the Spending and Commerce Clauses:
- “Lopez” case
- “Raich” case
- Comparison of Lopez and Raich: Future of Federal v. State Powers.

Homework:

1. **Supplement Inside Colombia: Drugs, Democracy and War, by Grace Livingstone, Pgs. 123-133, 144-145, 147-153, 171-174**
2. **Study South American map**

3. *Report on Felipe Calderon (Mexico).* _____
4. *Report on Michaelle Jean (Canada, Governor-General).* _-----_
5. *Report on Stephen Harper (Canada, Prime Minister)* _-----_
6. *Report on Hugo Chavez (Venezuela).* _____

Tuesday,

1-3:

- South America map quiz,
- Colombia and Inside Colombia Discussion
- Mexico/NAFTA Discussion
- Venezuela Discussion
- Cuba Discussion

Homework:

1. *Supplement: “Timeline of Key Events in Chechnya, 1830-2004” from Infoplease, Pgs. 1-3*
2. *Handout – “Governments and Politics in Russia and the Post-Soviet Region”*
3. *Study Asian map*
4. *Report on Abdul Kalam (Pres. of India)/Manmohan Singh (Prime Minister of India)* _____
5. *Report on Hu Jintao (China).* _____
6. *Report on Chen Shui-Bian (Taiwan)* _____
7. *Report on Shinzo Abe (Japan)* _____
8. *Report on Putin.* _____
9. *Report on Sergei Ivanov (Projected Future Leader of Russia).* _____

Wednesday,

1-3:

- Asia map quiz
- Russia/Chechnya Discussion
- China/Taiwan/Hong King/Tibet Discussion
- North Korea Discussion
- Kashmir Discussion

Homework:

1. *Supplement: Understanding the European Union, by John McCormick, Pgs. 64-88*
2. *Hand-out: “The Making of Nagorno-Karabagh”*
3. *Study Europe map*
4. *Report on Horst Koehler (Germany).* _-----_
5. *Report on Angela Merkel (Germany).* _-----_
6. *Report on Sarkozy (France).* _____
7. *Report on Gordon Brown (England).* _____

Thursday,

1-3

- Trip to Obama’s Campaign Office in Cedar Rapids

- European map quiz,
- Understanding the European Union and Discussion
- Bosnia Discussion
- Armenia/Azerbaijan and “The Making of Nagorno-Karabagh” Discussion

Homework:

1. **Supplement: Q & A: Sudan’s Darfur Conflict, BBC News, Pgs 1-2**
2. **Study Africa Map**
3. **Report on Hosni Mubarak (Egypt).** _____
4. **Report on Thabo Mbeki (South Africa).** _____
5. **Report on Mugabe (Zimbabwe).** _____

Friday,

9-11:

- African map quiz.
- Discussion Sudan/Darfur, Zimbabwe, Rwanda
- If time, watch: “Why the Bomb was Dropped” or “Butter Battle Book” Movie

Homework:

1. **Supplement: Nongovernments: NGOs and the Political Development of the Third World, by Julie Fisher, Pgs. 13-17, 39-46**
2. **Hand-Out: “Hidden Iran” (About 46 pages)**
3. **Study Middle East Map**
4. **Report on Moshe Katzav (Israel).** _____
5. **Report on Prime Minister Ehud Olmert (Israel)** _____
6. **Report on Hamid Karzai (Afghanistan).** _____
7. **Report on Ali Hoseini Khamenei (Iran).** _____
8. **Report on Pres. Mahmud Ahmadi-nejad (Iran)** _____
9. **Report on Jalal Talabani (Iraq).** _____
10. **Report on Ban Ki-Moon (UN Sec. General).** _____

4th WEEK: WRAP-UP

Monday,

9-11:

- Middle East Map Quiz,
- Iran and “Hidden Iran” Discussion
- NGOs Discussion
- UN Discussion
- Finish Movie

Homework:

1. **Start studying for the final exam**

Tuesday,

1-3:

- Write Thank-You Notes to Visitors.
- Exam Review
- Evaluations

Homework:

1. Study for the Exam

**Wednesday,
9-11:30 Exam**

Grading:

- Final Exam = 35%
- Map Quizzes: 4% for each of the 5 regional maps = 20% total
- Class Participation = 10%
- Reports on Leaders = 5%
- First Paper = 25%
- Second Short Response Paper = 5%

Grading Scale

95-100% = A	83-86% = B	73-76% = C
90-94% = A-	80-82% = B-	70-72% = C-
87-89% = B+	77-79% = C+	

Final Exam Consists of 4 parts.

1 Mandatory Essay = 25%
Choice of 2 out of 4 Short Essays = 25%
50 Simple Answers = 50%