
POLS 101: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE

Bellevue College

Fall 2014: M-TH 11:30-12:20, L221

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“If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and what never will be”

~Thomas Jefferson

“If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.”

~Frederick Douglass

“If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, what am I”

~Rabbi Hillel

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory course that is designed for students who are new to the study of politics. The purpose of this course is to provide you with a broad introduction to the field of political science and to help you to sort through and develop informed opinions about a variety of political topics. Some of the specific topics of study include: civic ignorance, the purpose of government, the functions of government, civil disobedience and patriotism, the relationship between the government and the economy, environmental politics, the media, international politics, and citizenship. This is not a current events course, although we will likely spend time each week addressing news topics related to the course content.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To develop a basic understanding of the academic field of political science.
2. To develop a more nuanced understanding of the role, power, and functions of government.
3. To become more informed and discriminating consumers of political information.
4. To foster self-reflection about the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

COURSE POLICIES

This is a college-level course, which means *you are responsible for your own learning*. I will do my best to facilitate our interactions on-line in a fun and interesting way, and to assess your learning fairly. I expect you to do your best to complete assignments in a timely and appropriate fashion, to log on to the course website each work day prepared for the day's work, and to actively participate in on-line discussions and activities. *If you do not understand something you need to take the initiative to find out the answer*—post a question on the logistics discussion board, email me, etc. I cannot read minds so it is up to you to try to seek clarity when it is lacking.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR CLASS DISCUSSIONS

This course involves the discussion of controversial political issues. Remember that reasonable people often disagree. Your challenge and responsibility is to maintain civil discourse. We will achieve this by being respectful of each other and avoiding inflammatory, derogatory and insulting words, phrases and labels. Please use your common sense to avoid any other conduct that might distract or offend me or your classmates. Thank you!

A NOTE ABOUT IDEOLOGY

I have no intention of trying to convert you to my belief system. The issues we will be exploring are often contentious and sometimes there will be no right or wrong answers. That being said, I believe there are good and bad arguments. Good arguments will be entertained on the discussion board (i.e. those that are logically sound and supported by the available evidence); bad arguments will be discouraged.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS AND MISSED EXAMS

All major due dates are indicated on the calendar on our course website. Because I believe that one of the major lessons that students learn in college is the importance of meeting deadlines, I will not accept any late work unless it has been approved by me BEFORE the date it is due or you can document an emergency. *All assignments turned in late will receive a grade of 0.0.* Likewise, *missed quizzes and exams will receive a grade of 0.0.* Make-up exams will not be administered unless you receive prior permission from me or you can document a catastrophe (such as being medically unable to take the exam).

DISABILITY RESOURCES

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or a learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact the DRC staff as soon as possible. The DRC office is located in B132 and the reception desk phone number is 425-564-2498. For application information and other helpful links the DRC website is <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc>. Deaf students can reach the DRC by videophone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Finally, if you have either an apparent or non-apparent disability and require assistance in case of an

emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc., please let me know early in the quarter so that we can develop an appropriate safety plan for you. Thank you.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Cheating and plagiarism (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College (http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_%28Procedures%29.asp).

Such behavior will result in a grade of 0.0 for the assignment/exam in question. Please note that these are serious offences, which can result in possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College and go on your permanent record. If you have questions about academic integrity, please familiarize yourself with BC's Student Code of Conduct and/or send me a message via email.

COURSE MATERIALS

The primary text for the course is Van Belle and Mash's *A Novel Approach to Politics* (3rd Edition). It is available in the campus bookstore, and it can also be purchased on Amazon for \$74.10 and rented for \$23.99. Supplemental materials will be made available on our Canvas website (<https://bc.instructure.com/courses/985179>) or in-class. You are responsible for downloading and engaging with all supplemental materials. ***Each assigned reading is to be completed before the class session for which it is scheduled,*** so that you can participate in any discussion or other classroom activity we do that day. Any material covered by an assigned reading may be included in examination questions, regardless of whether it is specifically discussed in the classroom. A complete course schedule is attached to this syllabus. If and when adjustments are made to the course schedule, you will be informed via an announcement on our class website. Please note that the assigned reading is an important part of this class—if you don't do it you are going to find it hard to succeed.

KEEPING UP WITH THE NEWS

Please keep up with current events related to politics. Our discussions on the discussion board will sometimes touch on current events and it is important that you keep up-to-date on the major political goings-on. Please find a few news sources that work for you (representing different mediums and viewpoints) and make a habit of reading, listening, and/or watching them throughout the quarter. If you have questions about the appropriateness of a particular news source for this class, please ask me sooner rather than later. I suggest that at least one of your sources be a national newspaper such as: the *New York Times* (www.nytimes.com), the *Washington Post* (www.washingtonpost.com), or the *Wall Street Journal* (www.wsj.com). I also encourage international sources such as the *BBC* (www.bbc.co.uk) and *Al Jazeera* (<http://english.aljazeera.net>). If you speak another language I encourage you to follow the news in that language and bring that perspective to class.

GRADED WORK

Syllabus Quiz	(5 pts)	1%
Profile Picture Assignment	(5 pts)	1%
Evaluation Assignment	(10 pts)	2%

Voter Registration Assignment	(10 pts)	2%
Citizen Pledge	(20 pts)	4%
Survey Assignment	(50 pts)	10%
Action Assignment	(50 pts)	10%
Engagement (Participation/Attendance)	(50 pts)	10%
Weekly Journal	(100 pts)	20%
Midterm Exam	(100 pts)	20%
Final Exam	(100 pts)	20%
Total	(500 pts)	100%

GRADEPOINT CONVERSION CHART

Grade	Points	Percentage	Grade	Points	Percentage
A	470-500	94-100%	C	370-384	74-76%
A-	450-469	90-93%	C-	350-369	70-73%
B+	435-449	87-89%	D+	335-349	67-69%
B	420-434	84-86%	D	300-334	60-66%
B-	400-419	80-83%	F	0-299	59% & Below
C+	385-399	77-79%			

SYLLABUS QUIZ (5 PTS ~ 1%) (DUE SEPTEMBER 24TH)

For this assignment you need to read the syllabus and answer ten logistical questions about the class. The quiz will be made available on our course website. To access the quiz just click on the “Assignment” button and you should see it. The purpose of this quiz is to make sure you (a) read the syllabus, (b) are familiar with the course schedule and my expectations, and (c) can navigate your way around our course website. I would recommend printing the syllabus so that you can easily refer to it during the quiz. ***This assignment is due by 11:30 am on Wednesday, September 24th, 2014.***

PROFILE PICTURE ASSIGNMENT (5 PTS ~ 1%) (DUE SEPTEMBER 25TH)

For this assignment, you need to upload a profile picture of yourself (preferably a head shot) to our course website. This will help me learn your name more quickly. If you prefer not to share a picture of yourself, please upload an (appropriate) image with which you would like to be associated. Thank you! ***This assignment is due by 11:30 am on Thursday, September 25th, 2014.***

COURSE EVALUATION (5 PTS ~ 1%) (DUE DATE TBD)

This assignment involves filling out an online course evaluation before the end of the quarter. You will not be graded on how you evaluate the course, but rather on whether you evaluate it. In other words, this is a credit/no-credit assignment. Its purpose is for me to get feedback on the course and my role in it. Your feedback will be anonymous and I won't see it until after grades have been posted. More details will be made available toward the end of the quarter. Please let me know if you have questions before then.

CITIZEN PLEDGE (20 PTS ~ 4%) (DUE DECEMBER 4TH)

For this assignment, you need to write a citizen pledge that you will recite in class. The written portion of this assignment is due on Canvas before class begins on December 4th and the recitation will take place in class on the same day. I encourage you to draw inspiration from other pledges, oaths, and inspiring texts, but the pledge that you write and recite needs to be your own. See the course website for more details on this assignment (including links to other pledges, oaths, and inspiring texts). ***This assignment is due by 11:30 am on Thursday, December 4th, 2014.***

SURVEY WRITING ASSIGNMENT (50 PTS ~ 10%) (DUE OCTOBER 12TH)

This writing assignment requires you to conduct a survey of twenty questions to ten members of the Bellevue College community. Ten questions will be drawn verbatim from the U.S. Citizenship exam, five questions will relate to world geography, and five questions will relate to pop culture. Once you have completed the surveys, you will need to input the data that you collect into an excel template that I have provided for you on the course website. Once the data have been inputted, I would like you to analyze and reflect on the data in light of the first day's readings and our class discussion about civic ignorance. Your write-up should be at least one-page, single-spaced, typed with Times New Roman, 12 pt font, and 1-inch margins. It should also include a clear and descriptive title as well as proper spelling, syntax and grammar. Click on the "Assignments" button on the course website to see more detailed directions. Please let me know if you have any questions. ***This assignment is due by 11:30 am on Sunday, October 12th, 2014.***

***Success Tip:** Plan out in advance when you will conduct the surveys so that you are not rushing to do everything at the last minute.

ACTION ASSIGNMENT (50 PTS ~ 10%) (DUE NOVEMBER 25TH)

This assignment requires you to choose a political issue that you care about, research it, take political action, and reflect on your action. Start by thinking about what political issues you care about and why you care about them. Choose an issue and do some research into what, if anything, is being done locally, nationally, or internationally in regards to this issue. Once you've decided on an issue, carefully decide on one or more actions that you would be willing to take that would help resolve this issue. For example, you might start a petition, contact an elected official, attend a political protest or rally, volunteer for a cause you believe in, etc. Please clear your action with me before doing it. After you've acted, you need to write a one-page, single-spaced reflection on the issue that you chose, what you did, why you did it, and what you learned. The write-up for me should be at least one-page, single-spaced, typed with Times New Roman, 12 pt font, and 1-inch margins. It should also include a clear and descriptive title as well as proper spelling, syntax and grammar. Click on the "Assignments" button on the course website to see more detailed directions for this assignment. Please let me know if you have any questions. ***This assignment is due by 11:30 am on Tuesday, November 25th, 2014.***

***Success Tip:** Pick a political topic that you care about and clear your action with me early in the quarter so that you are not rushing to do something meaningless to both of us at the last minute.

PARTICIPATION/ENGAGEMENT (50 pts ~ 10%)

This class would be extremely dull if I did all the talking so please do your part to participate. It is impossible for you to participate if you are not in class, but participation is about more than just attendance. You are expected to come to every class having done ALL the assigned reading, and you are expected to regularly contribute to our in-class discussions—even if you are shy. Please come to every class with a pen or pencil, some paper, a copy of the assigned reading, and a copy of that day's reading prompt. It is worth pointing out that *the BC guideline for homework is two hours outside of class for each credit hour!*

***Success Tip:** Don't be shy. Try to participate every day. If you are confused, ask me questions in class, during my office hours, or via email.

WEEKLY JOURNAL (100 PTS) (DUE EVERY SUNDAY)

As a supplement to in-class discussion, I would like you to keep a reflective journal this quarter. The journal will be submitted on Canvas and its purpose is to stimulate your thinking about the material being covered in lecture and in the reading and to serve as a starting point for in-class discussions. You are responsible for writing one outside-of-class journal entry per week for a total of 11 entries. Your lowest grade will be dropped so you can miss one journal without penalty—in other words, you only need to do 10 of the 11 entries. Each journal entry should be at least 300 words in length. Each week's journal prompts will be posted on our course website by 12:00 am Monday. You must complete your journal entry by 11:59 pm on the following Sunday. Each journal entry is worth ten points. Please let me know if you have any questions.

***Success Tip:** Take the journal prompts seriously, turn your entries in on time, and make sure you follow the instructions regarding the number of words.

MIDTERM EXAM (100 pts ~ 20%) (IN-CLASS OCTOBER 27TH AND 28TH)

Your midterm exam will cover assigned readings, movies, lectures, guest presentations, and major current events discussed in class. The exam will consist of a mix of question types, including: true-false, multiple-choice, identifications, short answer, and essay. A study-guide will be made available to you a week before the exam.

***Success Tip:** Keep up with the assigned material and do not leave your exam preparation until the night before the exam. Take advantage of the review sheet. Form a study group with your classmates. Come to my office hours if you have questions.

FINAL EXAM (100 pts ~ 20%) (IN-CLASS DECEMBER 8TH)

Your final exam will not be cumulative; rather, it will cover the assigned readings, movies, lectures, guest presentations, and major current events discussed in class since the midterm exam. Like the midterm, the final exam will consist of a mix of question types, including: true-false, multiple-choice, identifications, short answer, and essay. A study-guide will be made available to you a week before the exam.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1: CIVIC IGNORANCE, COGNITIVE BIAS, & IDEOLOGY

Monday, September 22nd, 2014—Introduction to the Course

- Assigned Reading
 - Syllabus (15 pgs)

Tuesday, September 23rd, 2014—Gross Ignorance

- Assigned Reading (29 pgs)
 - Shenkman: “Gross Ignorance” (pp. 13-36) (24 pgs)
 - Romano: “How Dumb Are We?” (pp. 1-4) (4 pgs)
 - CNN: “Geography Greek to Many Americans” (1 pg)

Wednesday, September 24th, 2014—Cognitive Biases & Logical Fallacies

- Assigned Reading (24 pgs)
 - McRaney: “Self Delusion” (pp. 1-15) (15 pgs), “Confirmation Bias” (pp. 27-31) (5 pgs), “The Third Person Effect” (pp. 166-169) (4 pgs)

Thursday, September 25th, 2014—Deliberating with Our Neighbors

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (33 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 1: Introducing the Ancient Debate” (pp. 1-18) (18 pgs)
 - Wolf: “Americans Deliberate with Their Neighbors” (pp. 173-187) (15 pgs)

Friday, September 26th, 2014—The Moral Roots of Liberals and Conservatives

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (23 pgs/25 mins)
 - Van Belle: “Introducing the Ancient Debate” (pp. 18-39) (22 pgs)
 - Cartoon: “Every Baby Knows the Scientific Method” (1 pg)
 - Haidt: “The Moral Roots of Liberals and Conservatives” (19 mins)
 - Colbert: “Interview with Jonathan Haidt” (6 mins)
- Assigned Activity
 - Profile Picture Assignment Due on Canvas by 8:30 AM.
 - Syllabus Quiz Due on Canvas by 8:30 AM.
 - Journal 1 Due (Political Ideology) on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Sunday!

WEEK 2: THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT & CIVIL OBEDIENCE

Monday, September 29th, 2014—Why Government?

- Assigned Reading (31 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 2: Why Government?” (pp. 40-58) (28 pgs)
 - Jefferson: “Declaration of Independence” (1 pg)
 - Constitution: “Preamble” (1 pg)

Tuesday, September 30th, 2014—The Public Good

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (17 pgs)
 - Colomer: “The Public Good” (pp. 3-15) (13 pgs)
 - McRaney: “The Public Goods Game” (pp. 113-115) (4 pgs)

Wednesday, October 1st, 2014—Why We Conform

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (34 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Why Government?” (pp. 58-67) (10 pgs)
 - McRaney: “Brand Loyalty,” “The Argument from Authority,” “Cult Indoctrination,” “Group Think,” & “Conformity” (pp. 87-92, 93-96, 124-126, 127-130, 183-189) (24 pgs)

Thursday, October 2nd, 2014—Civil Obedience

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (25 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 3: Governing Society” (pp. 68-90) (23 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 13: Secret Government” (pp. 351-352) (2 pgs)

Friday, October 3rd, 2014—U.S. Surveillance

- Assigned Viewing
 - *The United States of Secrets: The Program* (116 mins)
- Assigned Activity
 - Journal 2 (Fact Checking) Due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Sunday!

WEEK 3: PATRIOTISM/CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

Monday, October 6th, 2014—Civil Disobedience

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (19 pgs)
 - Thoreau: “Civil Disobedience” (pp. 286-289) (4 pgs)
 - Canon, Lincoln, & King: “Civil Disobedience” (pp. 127-141) (15 pgs)

Tuesday, October 7th, 2014—Patriotism

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (20 pgs)
 - Beinart: “The War Over Patriotism” (pp. 1-7) (7 pgs)
 - Zinn: “Patriotism” (pp. 111-120) (10 pgs)
 - Goldman: “Patriotism: A Menace to Liberty” (pp. 270-272) (3 pgs)

Wednesday, October 8th, 2014—The MLK You Don’t See on TV

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (5 pgs/56 mins)
 - Solomon: “The MLK You Don’t See on TV” (2 pgs)
 - West: “Dr. King Weeps in His Grave” (3 pgs)
 - Smiley: *A Call to Conscience* (56 mins)

Thursday, October 9th, 2014—Freedom Intended As A Challenge

- Assigned Reading (19 pgs)
 - Wolf: “Introduction” (pp. 3-12) (10 pgs)
 - Wolf: “Freedom Intended As a Challenge” (pp. 13-21) (9 pgs)

Friday, October 10th, 2014—The Freedom Riders

- Assigned Viewing (112 mins)
 - American Experience: *Freedom Riders* (112 mins)
- Assigned Activity
 - Journal 3 (Patriotism/Civil Disobedience) Due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Sunday!

WEEK 4: POLITICAL ECONOMY/ECOLOGY

Monday, October 13th, 2014—Government's Role in the Economy

- Assigned Reading (27 pgs)
 - Van Belle: "Ch. 4: "Government's Role in the Economy" (pp. 92-118) (27 pgs)

Tuesday, October 14th, 2014—Economic Inequality

- Assigned Reading (18 pgs/23 mins)
 - Reich: "Introduction: The Paradox" (pp. 3-14) (12 pgs)
 - Stiglitz: "Of the 1%, By the 1%, For the 1%" (pp. 1-4) (4 pgs)
 - "Wealth Inequality in America" (6 mins)
 - Mother Jones: "It's the Inequality, Stupid" (2 pgs)
 - Wilkinson: "How economic inequality harms societies" (17 mins)

Wednesday, October 15th, 2014—On A Road to Disaster

- Assigned Reading (19 pgs/18 mins)
 - Daly: "On A Road to Disaster" (1 pg)
 - Speth: "Consumption" (pp. 147-164) (18 pgs)
 - Leonard: "The Story of Stuff" (18 mins)

Thursday, October 16th, 2014—Global Warming

- Assigned Reading (16 pgs)
 - Klein & Bauman: "Climate Science," "Global Warming," "Life on Earth," "Tragedy of the Commons," "Techno-Fix," "Putting A Price on Carbon," & "The Challenge" (pp. 63-74, 77-88, 101-110, 134-144, 145-158, 159-170, 183-196) (85 pgs) (this is from a cartoon book)

Friday, October 17th, 2014—Climate of Doubt

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (6 pgs/56 mins)
 - Rolling Stone: "Climate Change Is Very Real" (3 pgs)
 - Pew: "Climate Change Is Already Here" (1 pg)
 - Pew: "Many Around the World" (1 pg)
 - Pew: "Climate Change – Key Data Points" (1 pg)
 - Frontline: "Climate of Doubt" (56 mins)
- Assigned Activity
 - Journal 3 (Ecological Footprint) Due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Sunday!
 - Survey Assignment Due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Sunday!

WEEK 5: THE FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT (PART 1)

Monday, October 20th, 2014—Structures and Institutions

- Assigned Reading (25 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 5: Structures and Institutions” (pp. 120-144) (25 pgs)

Tuesday, October 21st, 2014—The Executive Function

- Assigned Reading (25 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 6: The Executive” (pp. 146-170) (25 pgs)

Wednesday, October 22nd, 2014—College Issues Day

- No School (for Students)!

Thursday, October 23rd, 2014—The Paradox of Citizenship

- Assigned Reading (29 pgs/6 mins)
 - Bellamy: “Citizenship” (pp. 1-26) (26 pgs)
 - Liu: “Democracy Is for Amateurs” (pp. 1-3) (3 pgs)
 - Leonard: “The Story of Change (6 mins)

Friday, October 24th, 2014—Take Back Your Government

- Assigned Reading (34 pgs)
 - Carroll: “You Can Do This,” “You Need to Do This,” Registering Your Support or Opposition,” “Calling Your Legislators,” “Emailing Your Legislators,” “Writing Your Legislators,” “Using Petitions,” “Advocacy for Busy People,” “Advocacy for Youth Under Eighteen,” “Other Ways to Be Involved” & “Putting It in Perspective” (pp. 3-4, 5-11, 29-31, 53-54, 55-57, 59-60, 61-63, 77-78, 79-83, 133-136, 143) (34 pgs)
- Assigned Activity
 - Journal 5 (Action Assignment) Due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Sunday!

WEEK 6: THE FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT (PART 2)

Monday, October 27th, 2014—Midterm (Part 1)

- Assigned Activity
 - In-class midterm exam!

Tuesday, October 28th, 2014—Midterm (Part 2)

- Assigned Activity
 - In-class midterm exam!

Wednesday, October 29th, 2014—The Legislative Function (Part 1)

- Assigned Reading (16 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 7: The Legislative Function” (pp. 171-187) (16 pgs)

Thursday, October 30th, 2014—The Legislative Function (Part 2)

- Assigned Reading (18 pgs/9 mins)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 7: The Legislative Function” (pp. 187-201) (15 pgs)
 - Grey: “Gerrymandering Explained” (5 mins)
 - NYT: “The Great Gerrymander of 2012” (2 pgs)
 - NYT: “Imbalance of Power” (1 pg)
 - Grey: “A Gerrymandering Solution” (4 mins)

Friday, October 31st, 2014—The War on Drugs

- Assigned Reading (55-108 pgs)
 - Jones & Mauer: “The Race to Incarcerate: A Graphic Retelling” (pp. 55-108) (54 pgs)
- In-Class Film
 - *The House I Live In* (Part 2) (109 mins)
- Assigned Activity
 - Journal 5 Due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Sunday!

WEEK 7: ELECTIONS AND BUREAUCRACY

Monday, November 3rd, 2014—The Democratic Ideal (Part 1)

- Assigned Reading (17 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 10: “Not Quite Right, but Still Good” (pp. 250-267) (17 pgs)

Tuesday, November 4th, 2014—The Democratic Ideal (Part 2)

- Assigned Reading (15 pgs/11 mins)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 10: “Not Quite Right, but Still Good” (pp. 267-281) (15 pgs)
 - Grey: “The Problem with First Past the Post Voting Explained” (7 mins)
 - Grey: “The Alternative Vote Explained” (4 mins)

Wednesday, November 5th, 2014—The Electoral College

- Assigned Reading (17 pgs/16 mins)
 - Dahl: “Electing the President” (pp. 73-89) (17 pgs)
 - Grey: “How the Electoral College Works (5 mins)
 - Grey: “The Trouble with the Electoral College” (7 mins)
 - Grey: “What if the Electoral College is Tied?” (4 mins)

Thursday, November 6th, 2014—The Bureaucratic Function

- Assigned Reading (21 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 8: Brazilian Bureaucracy” (pp. 202-220) (19 pgs)
 - Danziger: “Five Styles of Administration” (pp. 158-159) (2 pgs)

Friday, November 7th, 2014—Why We Fight

- Assigned Viewing (99 pgs)

- Jarecki: *Why We Fight* (99 mins)
- Assigned Activity
 - Journal 7 (Why We Fight) Due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Sunday!

WEEK 8: THE JUDICIAL FUNCTION & INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

Monday, November 10th, 2014—The Judicial Function

- Assigned Reading (28 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 9: Courts and Law” (pp. 221-248) (28 pgs)

Tuesday, November 11th, 2014—Veteran’s Day!

- No school!

Wednesday, November 12th, 2014—The War on Drugs

- Assigned Viewing (109 mins)
 - *The House I Live In* (109 mins)

Thursday, November 13th, 2014— International Politics (Part 1)

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (25 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “International Politics” (pp. 313-337) (25 pgs)

Friday, November 14th, 2014—International Politics (Part 2)

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (15 pgs/100 mins)
 - Van Belle: “International Politics” (pp. 337-350) (14 pgs)
 - YouTube: “Global Wealth Inequality” (4 mins)
 - Forbes: “The 67 People As Wealthy As the World’s Poorest 3.5 Billion” (1 pg)
 - *The Yes Men Fix the World* (96 mins)
- Assigned Activity
 - Journal 8 (Creative Activism) Due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Sunday!

WEEK 9: THE MEDIA

Monday, November 17th, 2014—Mediated Politics

- Assigned Reading (29 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 11: Media, Politics, and Government” (pp. 283-311) (29 pgs)

Tuesday, November 18th, 2014— The Influencing Machine (Part 1)

- Assigned Reading (44 pgs)
 - Gladstone: “Introduction,” “In the Beginning,” “The American Exception,” “Existential Angst” (pp. xi-xxii, pp. 3-34) (44 pgs)

Wednesday, November 19th, 2014—The Influencing Machine (Part 2)

- Assigned Reading (36 pgs)
 - Gladstone: “Bias” & “War” (pp. 60-70, 71-95) (36 pgs)
- Assigned Reading/Viewing (94 mins)
 - PBS: *The Most Dangerous Man in America* (94 mins)

Thursday, November 20th, 2014— The Filter Bubble

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (6 pgs/20 mins)
 - Postman: “Amusing Ourselves to Death” (pp. 1-4) (4 pgs)
 - Waters: “Electronic Isolation Gives Cold Comfort” (pp. 1-2) (2 pgs)
 - Pariser: “The Online Filter Bubble” (9 mins)
 - Oliver: “Native Advertising” (11 mins)

Friday, November 21st, 2014—Freedom of Speech and Press

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (94 mins)
 - PBS: *The Most Dangerous Man in America* (94 mins)
 - Wikileaks: “Collateral Murder” (18 mins)
 - Colbert: “Interview with Julian Assange” (7 mins)
 - The Guardian: “The NSA and Surveillance” (3 mins)

WEEK 10: THE STUDY OF POLITICS & ACTION ASSSIGNMENT

Monday, November 24th, 2014—Political Culture/The Study of Politics

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (36 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 14: Political Culture” (pp. 353-374) (22 pgs)
 - Van Belle: “Ch. 15: The Study of Politics” (pp. 376-386) (11 pgs)
 - Zirin: “Enough: An Open Letter to Dan Snyder” (3 pgs)

Tuesday, November 25th, 2014—Political Action Assignment

- Assigned Activity
 - Action Assignment Due on Canvas And in Class by 11:30 AM Today!

Wednesday, November 26th, 2014—Political Action Assignment

- Assigned Activity
 - Present Political Action Assignment in Class!

Thursday, November 27th, 2014—Thanksgiving Holiday

- No School!

Friday, November 28th, 2014—Thanksgiving Holiday

- No School!
- Assigned Activity
 - Journal 10 (Thanksgiving) Due on Canvas by 11:59 PM on Sunday!

WEEK 11: RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP

Monday, December 1st, 2014—Learned Helplessness

- Assigned Reading (29 pgs)
 - Loeb: “Introduction” (pp. 1-19) (19 pgs)
 - McCraney: “Learned Helplessness” (pp. 205-209) (5 pgs)
 - McCraney: “The Bystander Effect” (pp. 73-77) (5 pgs)

Tuesday, December 2nd, 2014—We Don’t Have to Be Saints

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (20 pgs)
 - Loeb: “We Don’t Have to Be Saints” (pp. 34-57) (24 pgs)

Wednesday, December 3rd, 2014—Great Citizenship

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (33 pgs)
 - Liu: “Great Citizenship” (pp. 41-73) (33 pgs)

Thursday, December 4th, 2014—The Story of Change

- Assigned Reading/Viewing (12 pgs/6 mins)
 - Loeb: “The Ten Suggestions” (2 pgs)
 - Zinn: “The Optimism of Uncertainty” (pp. 63-72) (10 pgs)
 - Leonard: “The Story of Change” (6 mins)
- Assigned Activity
 - Citizen Pledge Due in Class and on Canvas by 11:30 AM!

Friday, December 5th, 2014—Prep for Final Exam

- No School!

WEEK 12: FINAL EXAM

Monday, December 8th, 2014—Final Exam

- Assigned Activity
 - In-Class Final Exam