

POLITICAL SCIENCE 101 (Item # 5561)

section B

INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed for students who have not had much background in the area of politics. The primary thrust of this course is to increase the student's political and international perceptions and perspectives.

Besides the assigned text, the students will be required to read certain relevant articles on a regular basis. It is also expected that students will stay abreast of current affairs during the quarter. Participation and discussion is an integral part of the course work.

INSTRUCTOR:

Aslam Khan

Office: D200C

Office Hours: Tues& Thurs 11:30 to 12:30 and by appointment only., Also available online.

Telephone: 425-564-2338

E-mail: akhan@bellevuecollege.edu

REQUIRED TEXT:

UNDERSTANDING THE POLITICAL WORLD: A Comparative Introduction to Political Science Ninth Edition - 2009 by James N. Danziger (Publisher: PEARSON LONGMAN)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students must complete all reading assignments, participate in class discussion, submit written assignments and take all examinations as scheduled. Moreover, the students are expected to attend classes on a regular basis. There will also be two bonus point quizzes and the dates for these will be announced in the class. This course requires access to VISTA and basic Internet proficiency. On campus sessions meet on the day listed. The balance of instruction occurs online as directed by the instructor.

OBJECTIVES:

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. Recognize and use basic, relevant political vocabulary such as politics, government, bureaucracy, nationalism, international relations, balance of power, bi-polarity, collective security etc.
2. Identify the major points of Plato, Aristotle, the Stoics, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, the Utilitarians, Hegel and Marx as they relate to the study of political science.

3. Recall the major ideologies of Leninism, National Socialism, Maoism, Liberation Theology and Democracy and explain how these theories have influenced the course of human existence in politics and government.
4. Categorize major political systems, traditional and modern including representative governments, Leninism, National Socialism, Maoism, Totalitarianism, feudal systems, colonialism and absolute monarchies.
5. Relate classic and contemporary political theories to contemporary world.
6. Explain the basic principles and function of international law and geopolitics.

TESTS:

There will be 4 tests in the quarter. In addition to the tests there will be online assessment quizzes. These will be accounted for in the entire grade. The online assessments will be found under the ASSESSMENT heading. These will be assigned on a regular basis.

DISCUSSIONS

Students will post discussions in the discussion folder on a regular basis. Topics will be posted by the instructor.

GRADES:

Grades will be determined by class average for each exam taken in the class. Sixty percent of the grade will be based on in-class examinations. The other forty percent of the grade will be based on the material assigned on the VISTA on a weekly basis. The breakdown of the grading (Vista) will be explained in the class.

The grading structure will be based as follows:

A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, F

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT:

This course involves the discussion of controversial political issues. Remember that reasonable people often disagree. The challenge and requirement of this course is to maintain civil discourse. We will achieve this by following three basic rules:

1. Use polite and civil behavior
 - a. Maintain calm level and tone of speech.
 - b. Allow others to finish their statements uninterrupted.
 - c. Respect others and respect yourself by focusing on evidence rather than emotion.

2. Use clearly defined terms (providing your own definitions if necessary).
3. Strictly avoid inflammatory, derogatory and insulting words, phrases and labels.
- 4..Note: Use of electronic devices is not allowed in this class.

READINGS

PART I ON KNOWING THE POLITICAL WORLD

Chapter 1. Politics and Knowledge

Chapter 2. Political Behavior

Chapter 3 .Political Actions

EXAM I October 8, 2009

PART II POLITICAL SYSTEMS

Chapter 6. Political Institutions I: Structures

Chapter 7. Political Institutions II: Institutional Arrangements

Chapter 8. Political Economy

EXAM II October 27,2009

PART III POLITICAL PROCESS

Chapter 10 Change and Political Development

Chapter 11 Politics Across Borders

Chapter 12 Political Violence

EXAM III November 12, 2009

PART IV POLITICS AMONG STATES

Chapter 13. The Developed Countries

Chapter 14. The Developing Countries

Chapter 15. The Transitional Developed Countries

EXAM IV December 3, 2009

FINAL CLASS MEETING (REQUIRED)

Will be announced in the class

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Revised Fall 2009

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of “HW” (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.