

Prof. R. Allen Bolar
Mesa College
Fall 2014, Mondays and Wednesdays from 08:00 - 09:25 AM
POLI 101: Introduction to Political Science
CRN: 98278
Classroom: MVO7, but will change later. I'll let you know.

Contact: rbolar@ucsd.edu; I'll also be getting an @sdccd.edu address soon.

Office Hours & Location: TBA

Course Material: *Power & Choice*, 14th edition, by Shively *Required

Other handouts that I provide in class *Required

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the field of Political Science. Emphasis is placed on the concepts and methodologies used in the study of political institutions, political participation, public opinion, and the international political system. Topics also include a survey of political theory and the history of American political ideology and culture. This course is intended for students majoring in political science and those interested in the field of political science.

Student Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Identify the main subfields of political science and describe the various methodologies used in the field.
2. Differentiate between ancient political theory and modern political theory, and identify elements of each.
3. Distinguish between nation, state, nation-state, and government.
4. Identify the main elements of democratic, authoritarian, and totalitarian systems, and classify given political systems, including the United States, according to these labels.
5. Define political ideology and political culture, and identify the main elements of different modern and contemporary ideologies.
6. Describe the historical development of political ideology and culture in the United States.
7. Describe the role of public opinion, mass media, and social networks in the political process.
8. Evaluate the roles of interest groups and political parties in the political process, including in the United States.
9. Describe and evaluate the basic structures of states, including the regional distribution of power, electoral systems, relationship between legislative and executive power, and types of law; and illustrate with examples, including the United States.
10. Explain key issues in the relationship between politics and economics.
11. Identify different types of political violence, and describe theories and examples of revolution.
12. Differentiate between domestic and international politics and law, and identify elements of and debates about the international political system.

REQUISITES:

Advisory:

ENGL 101 with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level R6/W6

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION: Students with disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss options with their professors during the first two weeks of class.

Some Things About Being Enrolled or Dropping:

- i. It is the student's responsibility to drop all classes in which he/she is no longer attending.
- ii. It is the instructor's discretion to withdraw a student after the add/drop deadline due to excessive absences.
- iii. Students who remain enrolled in a class beyond the published withdrawal deadline, as stated in the class schedule, will receive an evaluative letter grade in the class.

Grades:	Attendance & Participation	10%
	2 short papers	20%
	Midterm Exam	30%
	Final Exam	40%

Website: allenbolar.wordpress.com <====when you go there find the course under the "Teaching" drop down link

There is a webpage that I will maintain for the course, where you can find course materials, review guides, relevant postings, etc... Do make sure that you take a look at the website, because there will be important things there.

Classes and Reading Assignments:

Week 1	Mon., August 18	Overview of Course
	Wed., August 20	Politics: Setting the State, Shively Chp 1
Week 2	Mon., August 25	Politics: Setting the State, Shively Chp 1
	Wed., August 27	Modern Ideologies and Pol. Philosophy, Shively Chp 2
Week 3	Mon., Sept. 1	NO CLASS (Labor Day)
	Wed., Sept. 3	Modern Ideologies and Pol. Philosophy, Shively Chp 2
Week 4	Mon., Sept. 8	The Modern State, Shively Chp 3
	Wed., Sept. 10	The Modern State, Shively Chp 3
Week 5	Mon., Sept. 15	Policies of the State, Shively Chp 4
	Wed., Sept. 17	Policies of the State, Shively Chp 4
Week 6	Mon., Sept. 22	Economic Policies of the State, Shively Chp 5
	Wed., Sept. 24	Economic Policies of the State, Shively Chp 5
Week 7	Mon., Sept. 29	What Lies Behind Policy, Shively Ch. 6
	Wed., Oct. 1	What Lies Behind Policy, Shively Ch. 6

Week 8	Mon., Oct. 6 Wed., Oct. 8	Democracies and Authoritarian Systems, Shively Ch. 7 Political Culture & Socialization, Shively Ch. 8
Week 9	Mon., Oct. 13 Wed., Oct. 15	*In-Class Midterm* Constitutions and the Design of Government, Shively Ch. 9
Week 10	Mon., Oct. 20 Wed., Oct. 22	Elections, Shively Ch. 10 Elections, Shively Ch. 10
Week 11	Mon., Oct. 27 Wed., Oct. 29	Parties: A Linking and Leading Mechanism in Politics, Ch. 11 Parties: A Linking and Leading Mechanism in Politics, Ch. 11
Week 12	Mon., Nov. 3 Wed., Nov. 5	Structured Conflict: Interest Groups and Politics, Shively Ch. 12 Structured Conflict: Interest Groups and Politics, Shively Ch. 12
Week 13	Mon., Nov. 10 Wed., Nov. 12	Social Movements and Contentious Politics, Shively Ch. 13 Social Movements and Contentious Politics, Shively Ch. 13
Week 14	Mon., Nov. 17 Wed., Nov. 19	National Decision-Making Institutions: Parliamentary Government, Shively Ch. 14 National Decision-Making Institutions: Presidential Government, Shively Ch. 15
Week 15	Mon., Nov. 24 Wed., Nov. 26	NO CLASS (Turkey Week) NO CLASS (Turkey Week)
Week 16	Mon., Dec. 1 Wed., Dec. 3	Bureaucracy and the Public Sector, Shively Ch. 16 Bureaucracy and the Public Sector, Shively Ch. 16
Week 17	Mon., Dec 8 Wed., Dec 10	Law and the Courts, Shively Ch. 17 Global Politics: Politics Among States, Shively Ch. 18

Final Exam time: TBA

Winter Break, time to celebrate! *Eat, Drink, and Be Merry!!*