

Prof. R. Allen Bolar
Mesa College
Summer 2016, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 09:00 - 12:20 AM
POLI 101: Introduction to Political Science
CRN: 62980

Classroom: SB111

Email: rbolar@ucsd.edu

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

Tues., June 07 Overview of Course
Thurs., June 09 Politics: Setting the State, Shively Chp 1

Week 2

Tues., June 14 Modern Ideologies and Pol. Philosophy, Shively Chp 2
Thurs., June 16 The Modern State, Shively Chp 3

Week 3

Tues., June 21 Policies of the State, Shively Chp 4
Thurs., June 23 Economic Policies of the State, Shively Chp 5

Week 4

Tues., June 28 What Lies Behind Policy, Shively Ch. 6
Thurs., June 30 Democracies and Authoritarian Systems, Ch. 7 &
Political Culture & Socialization, Shively Ch. 8

Week 5

Tues., July 05 ***In Class Midterm***
Thurs., July 07 Constitutions and the Design of Government, Shively Ch. 9

Week 6

Tues., July 12 Elections, Shively Ch. 10 &
Parties: A Linking and Leading Mechanism in Politics, Ch. 11
Thurs., July 14 Structured Conflict: Interest Groups and Politics, Shively Ch. 12

Week 7

Tues., July 19 Social Movements and Contentious Politics, Shively Ch. 13
Thurs., July 21 National Decision-Making Institutions: Parliamentary

Week 8

Tues., July 26
Thurs., July 28

Government, Shively Ch. 14 &
National Decision-Making Institutions: Presidential
Government, Shively Ch. 15

Bureaucracy and the Public Sector, Shively Ch. 16
Law and the Courts, Ch. 17 &
Global Politics: Politics Among States, Shively Ch. 18

Final Exam time: TBA