

# Political Science 1004

Introduction to Politics  
Transylvania University  
Fall 1998

M/W/F 12:30-1:20  
Haupt Humanities #103

**Instructor:** Mr. Mike Gunter  
**Office:** Room #4 Hazelrigg Hall  
**Office Hours:** Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.  
and by appointment  
**Phone:** 233-8429  
**e-mail:** mmgunt0@pop.uky.edu

## REQUIRED TEXTS

The following required texts are available at the university bookstore:

- # H.M. Levine. *Political Issues Debated*. Prentice-Hall, 4th ed., 1993.
- # R.C. Macridis and M. Hulliung. *Contemporary Political Ideologies*. Addison-Wesley, 6th ed., 1996.

## ADDITIONAL REQUIRED READING

In addition to the above texts, several articles as noted in the course schedule will form the basis of various class discussions throughout the semester. In an effort to conserve your textbook costs I am not requiring that you purchase these items. However you are still responsible for each of these readings. Copies of each item are on reserve at the campus library.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Political Science 1004 is intended to introduce you to the world of politics by comparing types of political systems and ideologies. Within Harold Lasswell's definition of politics as 'Who gets what, when and how,' this course will examine a wide breadth of material -- from political to economic order. More specifically, the course is organized as follows:

### *Section I: Basic Concepts of Political Analysis*

-- power, nations, states, behavior, institutions, regimes and systems

### *Section II: Democratic Ideologies and Systems*

-- liberalism, conservatism, socialism as they relate to democratic processes and values

### *Section III: Dictatorial Ideologies and Systems*

-- philosophical foundations, practical development and contemporary versions of both fascism and communism

### *Section IV: Third World*

-- political and economic development, dependency, nationalism and revolutions

This course is by definition an introduction to theoretical approaches to comparative political analysis. While there is no course prerequisite, history and current events are important components of the course and you will be expected to keep up with political affairs. Lectures and reading assignments will then go a step further and foster independent critical analysis, integrating the world around us with various theoretical approaches. Thus, the underlying objective of this course is to provide the proper tools to enhance *your* interpretation of the world around you.

Finally, and most importantly, let me note that this course is essentially a contract between teacher and student. My job is to do my best to help you learn. Please let me know if anything in class hampers this. Students are encouraged to come to my office hours to ask questions or make suggestions. Your side of the agreement is to do your best to learn, including doing the reading *before* class. Attendance and participation in class are expected. Material discussed in class (and not necessarily in the readings) will appear on exams and other assignments. Participation will play a key role in determining final grades, especially border-line cases.

### **CURRENT EVENTS JOURNALS:**

There is both an oral and written component to the current events journal. Twice during the semester I will collect your journals for evaluation. Five article entries are due on each of these days with at least a one page analysis per entry. Thus, over the course of the semester we will each read AND analyze ten separate articles. This component serves in lieu of a term paper for the course so grammar and writing style are also important. Also, note that once during the semester you will be expected to give a short (3 to 4 minutes) oral presentation on one of your journal entries. Please see the "journals" handout for additional information.

### **GRADING POLICY:**

Grading is based upon the standard +/- system below:

- A = 93 % and above
- A- = 90-92
- B+ = 87-89
- B = 83-86
- B- = 80-82
- C+ = 77-79
- C = 73-76
- C- = 70-72
- D+ = 67-69
- D = 63-66
- D- = 60-62
- E = 59 and below

You are responsible for turning in assignments on time. Late assignments are docked one letter grade for each day (not class period) after the due date. In other words an A quality journal which is one day late receives a B. Make-up tests are not given, except under approved, extenuating circumstances, i.e. illness, death in the family, religious holiday. In these cases the instructor must be informed *prior* to the exam.

**GRADING DISTRIBUTION:**

Participation	15%
Current Events Journal	
-- includes both written	10%
-- and oral components	5%
Mid-term exam I	20%
Mid-term exam II	20%
Final Exam	30%

**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
9/9	Introduction	None
9/11	Politics and Political Science	Levine, Chpt. 1
9/14	Government and Governance	Kaplan, AThe Coming Anarchy@
9/16	Nations and States	Levine, Chpt. 2
9/18	Political Culture	Levine, Chpt. 6
		Huntington, AThe Clash of Civilizations@
9/21	Power	None
9/23	Division of Power	Karns/Mingst, <i>The UN in Post-Cold War Era</i>
9/25	Parliamentary and Presidential Systems	Levine, Chpt. 11
9/28	Federalism and the U.S. Constitution	Levine, Chpt. 10
		Parenti, AA Constitution for the Few@
9/30	Political Parties and Elections	Levine, Chpt. 8
10/2	Journal Presentations	None
10/5	First Mid-term	
10/7	Democratic Principles	Nance, ANYPD Blue;@ Puckett, AResidents@ and <i>Herald Leader</i> , ADevelopers Block Off@
10/9	Conceptions of Democracy	Rejai, ADemocracy@
10/12	Bureaucracy	Janis, AGroupthink@
10/14	Classical Liberalism	Macridis, Chpt. 2
10/16	Reform Liberalism	Hoover, AReform Liberalism@
10/19	No class (school break)	
10/21	Classical Conservatism	Macridis, pp.79-90
10/23	Contemporary Conservatism	Macridis, pp.90-93, 66-70, 238-241; Rosenthal, AQuayle Attacks Cultural Elite@
10/26	Capitalism and Its Political Transformations	Levine, pp.91-95; Macridis, pp.62-66
10/28	Economic and Social Democracy	Macridis, pp.55-62; Levine, pp.40-41
		Lappe, AOne Dollar, One Vote@
10/30	Globalization	Moore, <i>Downsize This</i> (selected chapters)
11/2	Summary and Review	None
11/4	Second Exam	
11/6	Varieties of Dictatorship	Macridis, pp.168-180
11/9	Fascism	Macridis, pp.184-192; Levine pp.72-75
11/11	Marxism	Levine, pp.95-99; Sargent, ACommunism@

	Macridis, Chpt. 5
11/13 Lenin and the Bolshevik Revolution	Levine, pp.99-104; Macridis, pp.110-115
11/16 Stalin and Soviet Communism	Levine, pp.104-106; Macridis, pp.115-123
11/18 Gorbachev and Collapse of Soviet Union	Macridis, pp.125-134 and 141-142
11/20 Marxism Reconsidered	Avineri, ACapitalism Has Not Won@
11/23 Journal Presentations	None
11/25 Colonialism	Weatherby, AThe Old and the New@
11/27 Thanksgiving Break	
11/30 Development vs. Ecology?	Shiva, AGreen Colonialism@
12/2 Central America Case Study	LeFeber, AInevitable Revolutions@
12/4 Neocolonialism Reconsidered	Levine, pp.270-275 (Issue 23)
12/7 Resistance Ideologies: Liberation Theology	Macridis, pp.224-231, 234-238; Susser,
Islamic Fundamentalism, Maoism	AThe Chinese Revolutionary Experience@
12/9 Triumph of Liberalism?	Fukuyama, AThe End of History@
12/11 Review Session	
12/14 Reading Day (no class)	

**12/15 (Tuesday) 9 to 11 a.m. -- Final Exam**

\* Please note changes in this schedule are inevitable as we progress through the semester. Any such changes will be announced in class.