

POLITICAL SCIENCE 100 and 100Y

Fall 2009 POLI 100 Section 1 MWF 10:00-10:50 PUP 208
POLI 100 Section 2 MWF 11:00-11:50 PUP 208 N. R. MILLER
POLI 100Y MWF 11:00-11:50 PUP 208 and F 1:00-2:15 PHYS 107

<http://userpages.umbc.edu/~nmiller/POLI100/index.htm>

INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Readings Available in Book Center:

Samuel Kernell and Gary C. Jacobson, *THE LOGIC OF AMERICAN POLITICS*, 3rd ed. (CQ Press, 2006)

Course Pack for POLI 100 (Public Domain Documents on American Government)

The UMBC Book Center is selling used copies of the third edition of the textbook, as shown above. However, other editions may be used, as there is very little difference among the editions. It is *not necessary* to purchase the Course Pack, as all the readings are available at the course website. Using any (UMBC or non-UMBC) computer, you can read the items on the screen, download them, print them in their entirety, or copy and paste selections. However, the Course Pack is convenient and cheap. Students are urged to follow national political and governmental affairs during the semester (and thereafter) by regularly reading a good daily newspaper. The *Washington Post* and *New York Times* are especially recommended. These and other news sources may also be accessed through the course website.

Course Objectives:

This is an introductory course, intended primarily for students who have no prior background in political science. It is designed to serve both as a first political science course for prospective majors and as a survey and general education course for non-majors. Accordingly, the course has three principal objectives:

- (1) For *all students*, to add to your stock of general knowledge concerning American national government and politics and thereby to help prepare you for attentive and active citizenship.
- (2) For *all prospective majors*, to introduce you to the discipline of Political Science and to prepare you to take more advanced political science courses.
- (3) For *all beginning students*, to help you develop reading, writing, and thinking skills necessary for success in more advanced course work in any area.

The course requirements and grading system have been designed to measure your accomplishment of these objectives. Grades will reflect level of individual achievement; there is no preset quota of A's, F's, or any other grades. Grades should be interpreted as follows:

- A** — essentially complete mastery of course materials, full accomplishment of course objectives;
- B** — very solid mastery and accomplishment, well prepared to take more advanced political science courses;
- C** — incomplete mastery and accomplishment, likely to have some difficulty in more advanced courses;
- D** — only most minimal command of course material and accomplishment of objectives, should retake course before attempting more advanced courses (prospective majors *must* retake the course); and
- F** — failure to accomplish objectives, no evident command of materials (must retake course in order to receive credit).

Course Requirements:

- (1) Beginning with class #4, there *may be* a very brief *unannounced quiz* at the beginning any class. Each quiz will cover course material (class lectures/discussions and readings) since the last quiz.
- (2) At the end of each third of the course, there will be a *full-period in-class multiple-choice test*, covering both readings and class lectures/discussion for that section of the course.
- (3) There will be two *take-home writing assignments*. These brief (about 500 words) assignments will focus on specific Course Pack readings. They will test and enhance your ability to (a) read carefully and demonstrate that you understand what you have read and (b) write lucidly and concisely. *Grading of these assignments will take account of English composition (spelling, grammar, organization, etc.), as well as content.*
- (4) There will be a *two-hour written final exam*, covering both readings and class lectures/discussion for the entire course.

Recommended Study Procedure:

The material of this course is divided into 37 substantive topics or “units”; one day of class is devoted to each unit. I recommend the following study procedure, in order to learn the material most effectively.

- (1) At the beginning of each class, a one-page *study guide* will be distributed that identifies major questions and topics that will be addressed in the *next* class unit.
- (2) After reading the study guide and prior each to each class, *do the reading assigned for that unit*. Read the items in the order they are listed on the course outline. Read carefully. Consider how the reading may address the questions and topics in the study guide. Put marks in your readings to indicate what seems most important, what questions you have, etc.
- (3) In class, *take notes*, concentrating on what seem to be the most important points as indicated the questions and topics in the study guides. It may be helpful to put some notes on the study guide itself. Feel free to ask questions before or after class and try to participate in class discussions. PowerPoint slides will be used in most classes and will remain on the course web page (see below) for later review.
- (4) As soon as possible after class, review the study guide, your notes, and the readings. Try to put everything together, by identifying the few basic concepts and ideas that tie the topic together. *Write these basic ideas down in your own words* (perhaps on the back of the study guide for that topic). Keep your written summaries on file, modify them as seems necessary (especially after you get a quiz back), and use them as a basis for review for the tests and final exam.

Outside Tutoring:

Outside tutoring for POLI 100 may be available through the Learning Resources Center or, for students with special needs, Student Support Services. However, neither the course instructor nor the Political Science Department in any way controls the availability or quality of such outside tutoring. Students are also invited to seek help from the LRC Writing Center (in the Library, near the main entrance) in completing the writing assignments.

Dates and Makeups:

Dates for tests, writing assignments, and the final are shown in the course outline; changes in these dates are unlikely and will be announced well in advance if they do occur. *No makeup quizzes will be given.* Makeup tests will be given only if you present a *reasonable* and *timely* excuse for not taking the test at the regular time. Ordinarily, a “timely” excuse is one that reaches me, my voice mail or e-mail box, or the Political Science Department secretary prior to the regular test time, and the makeup normally should be arranged and, if possible, completed prior to the next class meeting.

Course Grade:

Each quiz, test, writing assignment, and the final exam will receive a grade. Your grade for the course will be an average of these grades, with the writing assignments counting 25% and the quizzes, tests, and final together counting 75%. However, regardless of your other grades, (i) you will get an *F in the course if you fail to complete either writing assignment or take the final exam*, and (ii) you will get *no higher than a D in the course if you fail the final exam*. A small bonus may be awarded for good class participation — this requires faithful class attendance and exceptional contributions to class discussions. *No “extra credit” work will be accepted.*

- (1) *Writing assignment grades.* If your grade on the second assignment is higher than your grade on the first, the first will not count. Otherwise, the two assignments count equally.
- (2) *Quiz/test/final grades.* A missed quiz counts as an F. A quiz grade will count in your grade for each section of the course only if it helps you (that is, only if it is higher than your test grade), in which case each quiz counts as 1/10 of the test. In like manner, if your final exam grade is higher than your test average (the three sections of the course counting equally), the tests will not count; otherwise the two will be equally weighted and averaged together.

POLI 100Y Course Grade:

POLI 100Y students will get an additional syllabus covering activities and assignments in the Introduction to an Honors University (IHU) weekly seminar, many of which will be graded. Your overall grade in POLI 100Y (4 credits) will be based on both your regular POLI 100 grade as determined above (counting 75%) and your IHU seminar grade (counting 25%).

Academic Integrity:

By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC’s scholarly community in which everyone’s academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. To read the full Student Academic Conduct Policy, consult the UMBC Student Handbook, the UMBC Policies section of the UMBC Directory, or go to

<http://www.umbc.edu/integrity> .

Office Hours and Messages:

Most questions and problems can be handled in the classroom immediately before or after class. If you need to talk with me at more length or in private, my office is room 321 in the Public Policy Building, and my official office hours for the Fall 2009 semester will be MW 4:00-5:00 with other times readily available by arrangement. Since I will not always be able to keep my office hours, I recommend that you make a specific appointment, which can usually be arranged before or after class. I can also be reached in any way listed below; *communication by email is encouraged for all purposes.*

E-mail:	<i>nmiller@umbc.edu</i>
Office phone (with 24-hour "voice mail")	(410) 455-2187
Political Science Department (to leave message)	(410) 455-2568
Home (if need be, but not after 9:30 PM)	(410) 381-3605

If you contact me by email, I will reply to whatever email address you use. However, if you ask about grades or other private information, you must use your UMBC email address. If I initiate email contact with you, I will use your UMBC email address, so you should check your UMBC email on a regular basis.

Course Web Page:

There is a course web page at <http://userpages.umbc.edu/~nmiller/POLI100/index.htm> (or follow the links **UMBC => Academics => Degrees and Programs => Political Science => Faculty => Nicholas R. Miller => POLI 100** which can be accessed from any computer with an Internet connection. (**Note:** this is an ordinary webpage, *not* a Blackboard site; however, the IHU seminar will have its own Blackboard site.) Announcements, the non-textbook readings (also available as a Course Pack from the Book Center), the PowerPoint slides, and backup copies of study guides and other course material distributed in class will be posted here. There is also a link to the Kernell and Jacobson textbook web site (<http://logic.cqpress.com>). In addition, this page contains links to additional documents that may be discussed during the semester and to a variety of other resources for political information and research. Over past semesters, students have asked questions by email, which I have tried to answer individually by email. I continue to answer individually but also, when the question is of general interest, I post the question and my response on a "Bulletin Board" section of the web page, so that other students can also have ready access to it. The Bulletin Board includes relevant items from prior semesters and more may be added during the semester; all items are listed in the order they relate to topics on Course Outline on the following pages.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

Readings should be completed on schedule *prior to class on the dates indicated*. Where several items are assigned for a single topic, you should read them in the order listed. You should take care to read all Boxes, Figures, and Tables in the Kernell and Jacobson textbook. The pages numbers shown are for the third edition of the textbook with the corresponding page numbers in the second edition shown in [brackets]. (Chapters are numbered the same way in both editions.) [#X] refers to a reading in the Course Pack or on the Web Page. (Go to the web page, click on **Syllabus** [not **Supplementary Documents**] and then on the reading.)

1. (September 2) Introduction and Overview
Kernell and Jacobson, Preface, Note to Students, and Chapter 1
2. (September 4) The Philosophical Origins of American Government
Thomas Hobbes, *LEVIATHAN*, Chapters 13 and 17 [#1]
John Locke, excerpts from *THE SECOND TREATISE OF GOVERNMENT* [#2]
3. (September 9) The Declaration of Independence
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 37-44 [31-38]
The Declaration of Independence (Kernell and Jacobson, Appendix 2, pp. 591-593 [549-551])
4. (September 11) The Articles of Confederation
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 44-50 [38-44]
The Articles of Confederation [#3] (or Kernell and Jacobson, Appendix 1, pp. 587-590)
Alexander Hamilton, *Federalist No. 16* [#4]
5. (September 14) Framing the Constitution
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 50-64 [44-54]
The Virginia Plan [#5]
The New Jersey Plan [#6]
The U.S. Constitution (Kernell and Jacobson, Appendix 3, pp. 594-599 [500-505])
6. (September 16) Ratifying the Constitution
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 64-67 [54-59]
Alexander Hamilton, *Federalist No. 84* [#7]
The Bill of Rights [Constitutional Amendments 1-10] (Kernell and Jacobson, Appendix 3, pp. 599-600 [557-558])

7. (September 18) Democracy and the Constitution
The U.S. Constitution (review carefully)
8. (September 21) The Political Theory of the Constitution
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 67-73 [60-65]
James Madison, *Federalist 10* (Kernell and Jacobson, Appendix 4, pp. 604- 607 [562-565])
James Madison, *Federalist 39* [#8]
James Madison, *Federalist 51* (Kernell and Jacobson, Appendix 5, pp. 608-610 [566-568])
9. (September 23) Amending the Constitution
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 54 (review)
Constitutional Amendments 11-27 (Kernell and Jacobson, Appendix 2, pp. 558-561)
10. (September 25) The Origins of Judicial Review
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 345-354 [319-328]
Alexander Hamilton, *Federalist 78* [#9]
Marbury v. Madison [#10]
11. (September 28) The Judicial Branch: Structure and Procedure
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 354-366 [328-338]
12. (September 30) The Judicial Branch: Appointment, Tenure, and Philosophies
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 366-377 [338-351]
13. (October 2) American Federalism
Kernell and Jacobson, Chapter 3
14. (October 5) FIRST MULTIPLE-CHOICE MIDTERM TEST
15. (October 7) Exercise of Judicial Review: Federalism and Economic Regulation
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 349-354 [323-328] (review)
McCulloch v. Maryland [#11]
Gibbons v. Ogden [#12]
Hammer v. Dagenhart [#13]

16. (October 9) Exercise of Judicial Review: Civil Liberties
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 155-160 [143-147] and 165-182 [152-167]
John Stuart Mill, excerpt from *ON LIBERTY*, Chapter 2 [#14]
Schenck v. U.S. [#15]
Dennis v. U.S. [#16], skim only
17. (October 12) Exercise of Judicial Review: Nationalization of the Bill of Rights
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 160-165 [147-152] and 182-200 [167-185]
Powell v. Alabama [#17]
Gideon v. Wainwright [#18]
FIRST WRITING ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED
18. (October 14) Exercise of Judicial Review: Civil Rights
Kernell and Jacobson, Chapter 4
Dred Scott v. Sandford [#19]
Plessy v. Ferguson [#20]
Brown v. Board of Education [#21]
19. (October 16) GUEST LECTURE OR STUDY DAY (Instructor Out-of-town)
20. (October 19) Congress as a Representative Assembly
Kernell and Jacobson, Table and Charts on pp. 220-224 [202-204]
Edmund Burke, "Speech to the Electors of Bristol" [#22]
21. (October 21) Congress as a Representative Assembly: Apportionment and Districting
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 205-224 [187-204] and Map of Congressional Districts
(Appendix 7, pp. 614-617 [572-573])
Kernell and Jacobson, Figures and Box on pp. 210-213 [192-194]
Baker v. Carr [#23]
Shaw v. Reno [#24]
22. (October 23) Congress as a Legislative Assembly: Organization and Procedures
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 224-256 [204-235]
23. (October 26) Congress as a Legislative Assembly: Organization and Procedures (cont.)
FIRST WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE
24. (October 28) Congress as a Legislative and Representative Assembly

25. (October 30) The Executive Branch: The Office of the President
Alexander Hamilton, *Federalist 70* [#25]
26. (November 2) The Executive Branch: Presidential Leadership
Kernell and Jacobson, Chapter 7
27. (November 4) The Executive Branch: The Bureaucracy
Kernell and Jacobson, Chapter 8
28. (November 6) SECOND MULTIPLE-CHOICE MIDTERM TEST
29. (November 9) American Political Culture
Alexis de Toqueville, excerpt from *DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA* [#26]
30. (November 11) Survey Research, Public Opinion, and the Media
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 381-402 [355-372] and Chapter 14
31. (November 13) Public Opinion: Consensus and Conflict
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 402-416 [372-386]
32. (November 16) Public Opinion: Partisanship and Ideology
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 388-390 [361-362] (review), pp. 433-436 [403-404], and
Chart on p. 493 [459]
SECOND WRITING ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED
33. (November 18) Opinions, Participation, and Democracy
Kernell and Jacobson, Box p. 489 [455] (Opinions of Party Activists and Voters)
34. (November 20) Interest Groups
Kernell and Jacobson, Chapter 13
35. (November 23) Suffrage and Voting Turnout
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 421-433 [388-400]

36. (November 25) The Electoral College
Constitution, Article II, Section 1 (Kernell and Jacobson, Appendix 3, pp. 597 [555])
Alexander Hamilton, *Federalist No. 68* [#27]
37. (November 30) The Origins of Political Parties and the Transformation
of the Electoral College
Constitution, Amendment XII (Kernell and Jacobson, Appendix 3, pp. 600 [558])
38. (December 2) Presidential Nominations
SECOND WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE
39. (December 4) Presidential Campaigns and Elections
Kernell and Jacobson, pp. 433-455 [400-424]
Kernell and Jacobson, Box on p. 453 [420] (The Electoral College)
Kernell and Jacobson, Appendix 9 (Summary of Presidential Elections), pp. 619-622
[577-580]
40. (December 7) The American Party Systems
Kernell and Jacobson, Chapter 12, begin
41. (December 9) Contemporary Party Politics
Kernell and Jacobson, Chapter 12, complete
42. (December 11) Catch Up and/or Review
Kernell and Jacobson, Chapter 15
43. (December 14) THIRD MULTIPLE-CHOICE MIDTERM TEST

COMBINED FINAL EXAM (for both sections): **Time and Room To Be Arranged**