



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2021	Instructor Name:	Adam Ekins
Course Title & #:	POLS 100	Email:	adam.ekins@imperial.edu
CRN #:	21735	Webpage (optional):	See Canvas
Classroom:	N/A	Office #:	N/A
Class Dates:	2/16-5/21	Office Hours:	N/A
Class Days:	N/A	Office Phone #:	N/A
Class Times:	N/A	Emergency Contact:	N/A
Units:	3	Class Format:	Online (Asynchronous)

Course Description

An introduction to the theories, principles and problems of modern political life and the methods of studying and acquiring political knowledge. Illustrative materials drawn primarily from the American experience. (C-ID POLS 150)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Develop an understanding of the major sub-fields of political science. (ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
2. Examine the world's major ideologies and political systems. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO5)
3. Develop an understanding of universal Human Rights. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO5)

Course Objectives

4. Explain the historical development of political science and its subfields.
5. Identify the key concepts in political science.
6. Evaluate and analyze normative and empirical approaches.
7. Identify and analyze basic political systems and their differences.
8. Analyze political behavior in international relations.
9. Identify and analyze the differences between western and non-western political systems.
10. Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the major western political theorist including Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Hegel, Mill, Marx, Engels, and Lenin.
11. Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of major non-western political theorists.



Textbook

Grigsby, Ellen. Analyzing Politics: An Introduction to Political Science. Sixth Edition. Cengage 2015

ISBN-10: 1285465598

(A slightly older or newer edition is fine as well)

Course Grading

ASSIGNMENT:	POINTS POSSIBLE:
Periodic Non-Cumulative Exams	400 points (100 points each)
Cumulative Final Exam	240 points
Chapter Quizzes	240 points (20 points each)
Discussion Board Participation	120 points

GRADE BREAKDOWN:

900-1000 points:	A
800-900 points:	B
700-800 points:	C
600-700 points:	D
< 600 points:	F

Exams and Chapter Quizzes:

You will have four exams throughout the term covering Chapters 1-3, 4-7, 8-10 & 11-12 in your textbook. You will also have a final exam at the end of the term covering the entire course. In addition, as you finish reading each chapter you will be required to take an online quiz on that chapter. All of these tests and quizzes will be given through Canvas and may include matching, multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. You cannot retake these timed online tests and quizzes nor stop and come back to them, so be sure not to begin one unless you are prepared to finish it in one sitting.

Discussion Board Participation:

You will be required to **meaningfully** contribute to our online discussion board on a regular basis. Every week you should respond to each question posted by the instructor for that week AND respond to comments made by at least two of your classmates on each of those instructor questions. The objective should be open and friendly conversation about politics. Students usually report that the online discussion is their favorite part of class (so long as the goal is conversation, not just meeting minimum requirements). Also, please note that while you are encouraged to comment on any posted discussion topic at any time throughout the course, you must comment on each of the week's instructor questions by 11:59 PM Wednesday and you must respond to your fellow student's posts by 11:59 PM Sunday.



Course Policies

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Any attempt to cheat and/or plagiarize in this class will result in the maximum disciplinary action possible according to IVC's school wide rules and regulations on student discipline.

If you cheat/plagiarize on any assignment you will receive a zero for that assignment and possibly an F for the entire course.

I have no patience for cheating so don't test me on this one. I won't listen to excuses or sob stories after the fact, so if you have any question about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism please be sure to ask me about it sooner rather than later.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATION:

Online communication with the instructor should be written as you would write a business letter, not a text to a friend or a tweet. Any email sent to the instructor should have the course and section number as well as your full name appearing in the subject line (e.g. POS 100-003 Adam Ekins) and all email communication for this class must be done through your AWC toro email account. I do not know who sexygurl25@aol.com may be, and I will not read any emails she tries to send me. While I try to respond to emails quickly, you should usually plan on a 48 hour response time (longer over the weekend) before you hear back from me.

Remember to be courteous towards all other students in the online discussion board. Flaming, trolling, and other inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. I reserve the right to kick you out of the course with a failing grade if I feel your behavior merits such action.

LATE WORK:

My general policy is that I do not accept late work, period. In rare circumstances when I feel there are justifiable reasons for finishing something late (or if I'm feeling particularly generous) I may still allow you to turn in late work with whatever penalty I deem appropriate. Do not count on this. Turn your work in on time.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.