

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

Fall 2021

Political Science 3300 The Study of Politics

Instructor: Jim Case
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Office Hours: 2-4:00 p.m. M, T, W, Th
Friday 10-11:00 a.m.
By appointment

Required texts: No required Text

Course description: Political Science 3300, An introduction to the major concepts that underlie politics. Topics include democracy, political ideologies, regimes, and structures of government.

Student learning outcomes:

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

- Demonstrate knowledge of contending political regimes;
- Demonstrate knowledge of archetypical political regimes;
- Demonstrate knowledge of contending political regime ideologies within the United States;
- Demonstrate knowledge of contending political regime ideologies internationally.

Program learning outcomes:

- Demonstrate knowledge of significant theoretical approaches of political science through written work and oral communication;
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze domestic and international political processes in written work and oral communication;
- Demonstrate the ability to develop arguments about global equity and equality issues in politics through written work and oral communication;
- Demonstrate the ability to engage in original research.

Marketable skills.

- Students can effectively communicate ideas and information verbally, visually, and in writing;
- Students can distinguish between credible/relevant information and information lacking credibility/relevance;
- Students can identify critical and common institutions of political decision-making and policy-making across different nation-state settings;
- Students can engage with social and political problems and use critical thinking to develop logical solutions.

Course evaluation.

- Three exams
- Research paper. Each student will select and topic relevant unit topics and write a ten-page paper on the topic. The topic must be approved by the professor. The student will submit a prospectus to the professor for approval.

Attendance—or Course Progress.

- Refer to university policy.

Distance Education Statement.

- Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

Blackboard Technical Support.

- SRSU 24/7 Blackboard Technical Support Online Support Desk Contact Info: Toll Free: 888.837.6055. Email: blackboardsupport@sulross.edu

Disabilities Accommodation.

- Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. Students with qualifying disabilities who seek accommodations must initiate a request for a meeting for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, M.Ed., LPC-S, Counseling & Accessibility Services, Telephone: 432-837-8203 (if no answer, leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible during work hours), or E-mail: rebecca.wren@sulross.edu. Disability Services are located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112). The mailing address is P. O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832.

SRSU Library Services.

- The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

Academic Integrity.

- Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

Classroom Climate of Respect.

- Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

Diversity Statement.

- University education at its best supports and encourages diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and values diverse identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic class, age, and nationality). The diversity in this classroom is an asset in the study of politics.

Calendar for Course PS 3300 The Study of Politics Fall 2021			
Date	Topic of the week	Assignment	Comments
August 23	Course overview		
August 30	Democracy	Athens: The Truth About Democracy The Ancient Greeks: Crucible of Civilization--Revolution	
September 6	Holiday	Labor Day	
September 13	Democratic Republics and Democratic (Constitutional) Monarchy,	Submit research proposal/prospectus for research paper.	Prospectus is due October 4.

	Democratic Capitalism and Democratic Socialism	Why Democratic Socialism is Gaining Popularity in the United States Capitalist Democracy Constitutional Monarchy: The Investiture of King William Alexander of the Netherlands Constitutional Monarchy: The Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II	
	Exam I		
September 20	Authoritarianism	Francisco Franco: Spain's Nationalist Dictator	
September 27	Totalitarianism	The Great Game: Inside North Korea The Lost World of the Khmer Rouge: Pol Pot's Cambodian Genocide	
October 4	Totalitarianism: On the Right	The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich	Such as fascism
October 11	Totalitarianism: On the Left	Stalin: Inside the Terror	Such as communism
October 18	Theocracy	Calvin and Early Geneva	
October 25	Theocratic Movements	Iran's Theocracy: From Khomeini to Khomeini	Such as Christian and Islamic theocratic movements
November 1	Exam II		
November 8	Colonialism	The Doctrine of Discovery: Stolen Lands; Strong Hearts	
November 15	Colonialism in the United States	Surviving Columbus	
November 22	Anarchy	Anarchism in America	
November 29	Course Summary		
December 2	Dead Day		
December 6	Final Exam 6:00 p.m.		Congratulations! If you have kept up with the course schedule, you have now completed the course.
December 10	Graduation		