General Education Social Science Learning Outcome: Students apply social science concepts, models or theories to explain human behavior, social interactions or social institutions.

The Learning Outcome will be assessed through the Research Paper on the concept and practice of Federalism and its effect on State & US Marijuana Policy.

Course Objective: This course is an overview of two issues in contemporary politics: the War on Drugs and the War on Terrorism. This course is intended to familiarize you with the goals of public policy, social issues, and philosophical issues surrounding these two “wars.” The literature is to present you with a broad sample of Political Science as a field of study; there are readings on US domestic and international policy, political philosophy, comparative politics, and criminal justice. The assignments are constructed to build student research skills regarding contemporary issues, their historical backgrounds, and to lay the groundwork for more in-depth study. The course is structured in a way that connects the study of Political Science to contemporary political events, policies and debates.

Technology notice. The College of Charleston requires each student to have a laptop computer. Do not attend class on your phone. It is an inadequate platform for the needs of learning environment.

Privacy Notice - Recording of Classes (via ZOOM):

Class sessions will be recorded via both voice and video recording. By attending and remaining in this class, the student consents to being recorded. Recorded class sessions are for instructional use only and may not be shared with anyone who is not enrolled in the class.

Contact: You may get in touch with me 4 ways:

- Speak with me after class.
- Make an appointment: Office: 953-6102 – I doubt that I’ll be there.
  Home: 406-0761. Do not call after 5 pm
• Email: hintond@cofc.edu: Make the subject ISSUES and I will see it. My office: JC Long Building, Room 228. Virtual Office Hours: Monday 12-1, Wednesday 10-11, and by appointment.

Please Purchase: A notebook.


I will provide additional readings and resources on OAKS.

Class Policies: 1) Attendance: If you miss more than 4 classes you will receive a failing grade (WA). 2) Be on time. 3) Stay Awake. If you are asleep, you are absent. 4) Turn off audible electronic devices. Do not “text” during class. 5) There are no extensions of due dates. Plan accordingly.

Your Grade: There will be 2 exams, 4 reading-response papers, and a short research paper:

- 2 Exams 15% each
- Federalism Research Paper 15%
- Class Participation 15%
- 4 Response Papers 10% each

Grading Scale
- A 94-100 A– 91-93
- B+ 88-90 B 84-87 B– 81-83
- C+ 77-80 C 73-76 C– 69-72
- D+ 66-68 D- 61-66
- F 60 and below

Class Participation: Do it: a) Express yourself b) Read to know the topic c) Be prepared to answer questions thoughtfully d) Experience awake-ness.
**Paper Requirements:** A 5-page paper is required for this course. The paper is about Federalism and US Marijuana Policy. The instructions are on OAKS.

Your work must be your own based on a minimum of 5 *journal articles*. Your paper must have a works cited page and internal citations. Cite everything. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course.

Political Science Citation:
http://polisci.cofc.edu/documents/12policitationguide.pdf

If you give me half a paper, I will give you half a grade. You need to meet the minimum requirements of the assignment (page length, number and quality of sources, etc.)

Also, you need to turn in 3 3-page reading-response papers. I will give you more information.

**Students With Disabilities:**

The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should apply for services at the Center for Disability Services/SNAP located on the first floor of the Lightsey Center, Suite 104. (phone: 843.953.1431) Students approved for accommodations are responsible for notifying me as soon as possible and for contacting me one week before accommodation is needed.

**Inclement Weather, Pandemic or Substantial Interruption of Instruction**

If in-person classes are suspended, faculty will announce to their students a detailed plan for a change in modality to ensure the continuity of learning. All students must have access to a computer equipped with a web camera, microphone, and Internet access. Resources are available to provide students with these essential tools.

**OAKS:** OAKS, including Gradebook, will be used for this course throughout the semester to provide the syllabus and class materials and grades for each assignment, which will be posted regularly.
College of Charleston Honor Code and Academic Integrity:

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when suspected, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student’s actions are related more to misunderstanding and confusion will be handled by the instructor. The instructor designs an intervention or assigns a grade reduction to help prevent the student from repeating the error. The response is recorded on a form and signed both by the instructor and the student. It is forwarded to the Office of the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XXF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This status indicator will appear on the student’s transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the XX to be expunged. The F is permanent.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at:

Fall 2020 Contemporary Political Issues Calendar

War on Terrorism (“Assassination! The whole country has been shot.”
– The Clash)

W August 26: Introduction to Terrorism and Political Violence; Pluralism, democracy, and discussing political issues

F August 28: Brief History and Definitions: read Nacos, chapter 1

M August 31: What is Terrorism?: read Nacos, chapter 2

W September 2: Can Terrorism be justified? read Primoratz, “Terrorism and Morality” (OAKS)

F September 4: 1st Response Paper Due

Waves of Modern Terrorism: read Nacos, Chapter 3

M September 7: Labor Day

W September 9: Case study, The Weather Underground Left-Wing 1960s, Domestic Terrorism

Prior to class, watch documentary: The Weather Underground (on Kanopy at the CofC Library Website) Take notes: Who? When Why?

F September 11: U.S. Domestic Terrorism - Hate Groups and Religious Extremists: read Nacos, 72-87;
and explore Southern Poverty Law Center Hate Map (link on OAKS); read about the beliefs of a hate group or two. Which are prominent in South Carolina?

M September 14: U.S. Domestic Terrorism – Ecoterrorism: read Nacos, 87-101, and “Ecoterrorism: Terrorist threat or Political Ploy” (OAKS)

W September 16: State-Sponsored Terrorism: read Martin, chapter 5
F September 18: Terrorism and religion: read Nacos, chapter 5

M September 21: Terrorism and religion: re-read Nacos, chapter 5

W September 23: Goals and Tactics, read Nacos chapter 8

F September 25: Making terrorists: read Nacos, chapters 6 and 7

M September 28: 2nd Response Paper Due

International Terrorism Case Study: Al Qaeda: read Nacos, chapter 9

W September 30: Counterterrorism: read Nacos, chapter 10-11, and Gottlieb, Chapters 7 & 8.

F October 2: State Terrorism: reading TBA

M October 5: Security and Human Rights: read Nacos, Chapter 12; and Spying on Ourselves: NSA (the Guardian) (OAKS);

W October 7: Spying on Ourselves: NSA (the Guardian) (OAKS)

F October 9: Exam 1 Review

M October 12: Exam 1

War on Drugs

“Police and Thieves in the street, scarin’ the nation with their guns and ammunition.” – the Clash

W October 14: Introduction to War on Drugs: Drugs in the 19th Century, Psychotropic chemicals - Food Drugs, Pharmaceuticals, and Illegal Drugs

F October 16: The Drug Business: read Mares Chapters 1 (OAKS)
M October 19: Drug production: read Wainwright, chapters 1-2


F October 23: Drug production and the Environment: Read article on Kava and the Environment (OAKS);

M October 26: 3rd Response Paper Due

Consumers: read Mares Chapter 3 (OAKS).


F October 30: Interdiction: read Wainwright, Chapter 9, and article on alternative development (OAKS)

M November 2: Interdiction 2: Plan Colombia: read Dion and Russler, “Eradication efforts, the state, displacement and Poverty: Coca Cultivation in Colombia during Plan Colombia” (OAKS) (or selection from Bagley)

Tuesday November 3 – Vote!

W November 4: Federalism and Rapidly Changing Pot Laws: Read Article by Pickerill & Chen on Medical Cannabis and Federalism (OAKS)

F November 6: Rapidly Changing Pot Laws, pt. 2: read Babcock on the environmental effects of illicit Marijuana growing (OAKS),

and http://www.motherjones.com/environment/2014/03/marijuana-weed-pot-farming-environmental-impacts ...& all the &!#$%* plastic.

M November 9: catch up

W November 11: Opioid Crisis: read Bruce Bagley, chapter 6 in Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime, and Violence in the Americas Today (e-book available via Library website)
F November 13: Drug War and Police Violence (link on OAKS)

M November 16: 4th Response Paper Due

Cartels in Mexico, part 1

W November 18: Cartels in Mexico, part 2

F November 20: Money Laundering: read Mares chapter 6

M November 23: Federalism & Marijuana paper due

W November 25: Thanksgiving Holiday
    Nov 26: Thanksgiving Holiday
    F November 27: International Buy-Nothing Day

M November 30: Comparative Policies: U.S., Netherlands, Portugal: read Wainwright, chapter 10

W December 2: Comparative Policies: U.S., Netherlands, Portugal: TBA

F December 4: Last Day of Class: review for exam.

    Final Exam: Wednesday December 9, 10:30-12:30

As recent events have shown, the schedule may change; I hope not.