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 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, 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.

How to Contact Me:
Speak with me after class or call to make an appointment:
E-mail: hintond@cofc.edu Make the subject ISSUES

My office: JC Long Building, Room 228.

Office Hours: Tuesday 11-12; Thursday 11-12, and by appointment.

Required Texts: a notebook.


Wainwright, Tom, Narconomics: How to Run a Drug Cartel. Philadelphia, Pa.: 
I will provide additional readings and resources on OAKS.

**Your Grade:** There will be 2 exams, 3 reading-response papers, and a short research paper:

- 2 Exams 20% each
- Research Paper 15%
- Class Participation 15%
- 3 Response Papers 10% each

**Class Policies:**
1. **Attendance:** If you miss 10 classes you will receive a failing grade (WA).
2. Be on time. Lateness is a distraction and **even more** so when we’re virtual.
3. Stay Awake. If you are asleep, you are absent.
4. Turn off or close all of the distractions on your computer! Commit to *just being in class.*
5. There are no extensions of due dates. This is your reminder. Plan accordingly.

You might need a backup plan if you are the kind of person whose computer fails them when you try to write a paper.

**Class Participation:**
- a) Read to know the topic.
- b) Express yourself.
- c) Be prepared to ask and answer questions thoughtfully.
- d) Prepare yourself for class – act like you are going to school, because you are: get up; use the facilities; eat, & drink your beverage of choice; get dressed for school; have your book and notebook at hand; sit up! You will have a better experience if your camera is on & you are not lying in the dark.

**Paper Requirements:**
A seven-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 7 journal articles and books. 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](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.)

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

You did not forget the paper is due! This is the reminder.

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

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 and lacks the required security.

You will not be admitted to Zoom sessions if your i.d. comes up as a phone number. I will not reply to real-time emails or messages about anything during class.

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.

If we have to go remote because of quarantine:

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.
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. Students approved for accommodations are responsible for notifying me as soon as possible and for contacting me one week before accommodation is needed.

“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 a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to 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 should be aware that unauthorized collaboration--working together without permission-- is a form of cheating. Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor.”

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php
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.

Fall 2021 Contemporary Political Issues Calendar

T August 24: Introduction to Terrorism and Political Violence; Pluralism, democracy, and discussing political issues

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

Th August 26: Definitions: read Martin, chapter 1.

T August 31: Brief History: read Martin, chapter 2.

Th September 2: Prior to class, Watch: War on Terrorism Documentary: The Weather Underground (through Kanopy at the Library Website).
    Take notes: Who? When Why?

T September 7: Causes of Terrorism: read Martin, chapter 3.

Th September 9: Can Terrorism be justified? read Primoratz, “Terrorism and Morality” (OAKS) and Held (OAKS)

T September 14: 1st Response paper due; Reading TBA

Th September 16: Terrorism & Media: read Martin, chapter 4.
T September 21: State Terrorism & State-Sponsored Terrorism: read Martin, chapter 5

Look at Terror Organizations on U.S. State Department website: https://www.state.gov/foreign-terrorist-organizations/

Th September 23: Dissident Terrorism & New Terrorism: read Martin, chapter 6 up to p. 113.

T September 28: Terrorism and religion: read Martin, chapter 7.

Th September 30: International Terrorism: read Martin, chapter 8,

T October 5: U.S. Domestic Terrorism 1 - Right-wing anti-government extremists, Hate Groups and Religious Extremists: Read Martin, Chapter 9, and explore Southern Poverty Law Center Hate Map (link on OAKS); read about a hate group or two. Who is prominent in South Carolina?

Th October 7: U.S. Domestic Terrorism 2 – the extremist Left: Ecoterrorism: “Ecoterrorism: Terrorist threat or Political Ploy” (OAKS) 2nd Response Paper Due

T October 12: Counterterrorism: read Martin, chapter 10

Th October 14: Exam Review

T October 19: Fall Break

Th October 21: Exam 1

War on Drugs

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

T October 26: Introduction to War on Drugs: Drugs in the 19th Century, Psychotropic chemicals - Food Drugs, Pharmaceuticals, and Illegal Drugs
**Th October 28: The Drug Business:** read Mares Chapter 1 (OAKS) and Wainwright, chapter 1.

**Perspectives & policies:** read Mares Chapter 2 (OAKS).

**T November 2: Federalism and Rapidly Changing Pot Laws:** Read Article by Pickerill & Chen on Medical Cannabis and Federalism (OAKS)

**Th November 4: Interdiction 1 - balloon effect: 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)

**T November 9: Drug production and the Environment:** Read Wainwright articles on Kava, cocaine, and the Environment (OAKS).

**Th November 11: Distribution: Cartels & Mexico:** read Wainwright, chapters 3 and 4.

**T November 16: Interdiction 2:** read Wainwright, Chapter 9, and article on alternative development (OAKS)

**Th November 18: Money Laundering:** read Mares chapter 6.

**Federalism & Marijuana paper due Friday by 8 p.m.**

**T November 23: Opioid Crisis:** read Bruce Bagley, chapter 6 in *Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime, and Violence in the Americas Today* (e-book available via Library website)

**Nov 25: Thanksgiving Day**

**F November 27: International Buy-Nothing Day**

**T November 30: Comparative Policies 2: U.S., Netherlands, Portugal:** read
Wainwright, chapter 10 3rd Response Paper

**Th December 2: Last Day of Class; exam review**

**Final Exam:** Thursday, December 9, 8-10 a.m.

Do not schedule any other activity at this time. Not air travel, moving out of the dorm or any other (non-life-threatening) excuse is a valid reason to miss the exam at the scheduled time.

Print this. As recent events have shown, this schedule may change! I hope not.