Course Objective/Overview: This course is an overview of the interplay between politics and religion in the United States. We will address the Constitutional issues, the relationship between religious and political institutions, and the dominant historical and current issues addressed by religious political movements. Religious groups, motivations and justifications have had a profound influence on policies, elections, conflicts, and political culture. Political institutions rely on major religious groups for electoral support. We will examine the mutual support systems which operate to promote both religious and secular agendas. Many of the religious and political divisions of the 19th century created the context for contemporary religious and political divisions. And we will look at religious/political extremism, the willingness to use violence to achieve social or policy goals. The course is structured in a way that connects historical debates over the religion and government to contemporary political policies and debates.

Course Prerequisite: POLI 101 American Government

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.

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 (ir-)regularly.

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.

How to Contact Me:

Speak with me after class
E-mail: hintond@cofc.edu  Make the subject mammon

My office: JC Long Building, Room 228.
Office Hours: Monday 2-3; Wednesday 8:30-9:30, and by appointment.

The Texts: Please purchase a notebook.


Williams, God’s Own Party, Oxford University Press, 2010.

I will post additional readings on OAKS.

You need to acquire the texts for the course in a timely fashion.
**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. No one is paying for you to be on Facebook. 5) There are no extensions of due dates. Plan accordingly.

**Your Grade:** There will be 2 exams and a final exam, a debate, and a research paper.

- 2 Exams: 20% each
- Final Exam: 15%
- Debate: 15%
- Research Paper: 15%
- Class Participation: 15%

**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:**

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. e) I have to know you are there to receive credit. You **build** a class participation grade by participating.

**Debates:** You must participate in one debate. You must attend all of them.

**The Paper:** A 13-page paper is required for this course. The paper should be a presentation of a contemporary issue regarding Religion and U.S. politics. Your work must be your own based on a minimum of 10 journal articles and books.
Your paper must have a works cited page and some form of internal citations. Cite everything. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course. I will post more thorough instructions on OAKS.

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.)

Use the Cloud. “My computer died.” is no longer a valid excuse.

Use Spell-Check. There is no reason for typos in your paper.

Read your own work for grammar, clarity, & syntax. Don’t turn in “word salad”.

You cannot forget when your paper is due. This is the reminder.

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.
Spring 2022 Religion & Politics Calendar

**M January 10:** Introductions; Syllabus; Introduction to Course; Religion & politics in the US: political, apolitical, moral, social, etc.

**W January 12:** American Politics & Religion overview - read Morone, Preface and Introduction.

Historical views of politics and religion: Hebrew prophetic tradition (opposition to corruption, injustice & abuse of power), Samuel, Augustine, Aquinas, and the Enlightenment.

**F January 14:** Read Corbett, Chapter 1.

Discussion of contemporary religion & politics, here and abroad.

**1st, test yourself here:** [https://www.pewresearch.org/quiz/u-s-religious-knowledge-quiz/](https://www.pewresearch.org/quiz/u-s-religious-knowledge-quiz/)


**M January 17:** MLK Day. No Class!

**Early America: City on a Hill/New Jerusalem**

**W January 19:** Puritans- read Morone, *Hellfire Nation*, chapter 1, pp 29-54.

**F January 21:** Establishment in the Colonial Period - read Corbett, Chapter 2,

**M January 24: American Colonial Religion and the Other:** read Morone, chapter 2.

**W January 26: Puritanism and American Political Culture:** read Morone, chapter 3.

**F January 28: Founders on Establishment** - read Corbett, Chapter 2. pp. 39-64,


**M January 31: Debate 1: Is the U.S. a “Christian Nation”?**

**W February 2: Millennialism & American Politics:** reading TBA

**F February 4 Nativism** - Read Corbett, pp. 83-89; Lambert 65-71(OAKS), Morone, 191-215; and selections on OAKS (Beveridge & T. Roosevelt); and “Amalgamation of native Americans and Whigs” at [https://archive.org/details/ASPC0005061000](https://archive.org/details/ASPC0005061000)

**U.S. Religion on Slavery, Civil War, & Race**


And Mary Lease, “Speech to the Women’s Christian Temperance Union” (1890)
http://www.historyisaweapon.org/defcon1/marylease2.html

M February 14: Catch up & review for exam 1

Social gospel v Gospel of Wealth/Progressivism

W February 16: Gospel of Wealth - read Lambert, Chapter 3 pp. 74-87 (OAKS), and Carnegie (Link on OAKS)

F February 18: Reform Judaism: read “The Pittsburgh Platform” (link on OAKS)

M February 21: Exam 1

W February 23: Social Gospel - read Corbett, 75-77, Lambert, Chapter 3, pp. 87-103 (OAKS) and Rauschenbusch (OAKS)

F February 25: The development of 19th c Progressivism and its agenda: Worker’s rights, Women’s Suffrage, Labor Reform - Read Jane Addams and selections from Rerum Novarum (link on OAKS)

M February 28: Debate 2: Is there still religious Nativism in the US?

Constitutional Considerations

W March 2: Establishment Clause 1 - read Corbett, Chapter 5.

F March 4: Establishment Clause 2: Engel v Vitale (1962) & other 20th Century Supreme Court cases OAKS and Selections from Harvey and Goff, Chapter 5

M March 7: Spring Break

W March 9: Spring Break

F March 11: Spring Break
M March 14: Free Exercise 1 - read Corbett, Chapter 6.

W March 16: Free Exercise 2 – re-read Corbett, Chapter 6

Cold War/Holy War

F March 17: review for Exam 2; Cold War - read selections from Harvey and Goff, Chapter 1, Intro, Ockenga, Niebuhr, Presbyterian General Assembly, Herberg, Reagan

M March 21: Debate 3: Can I Legally Discriminate Because of my Religious Views?


Civil Rights and the 1960s

F March 25: Civil Rights 1 - read Noll, Chapter 4 and 5, SNCC (“Freedom Songs” and “Statement of Purpose”), King, and Committee of Black Churchmen (Harvey and Goff)

M March 28: Exam 2

W March 30: Civil Rights 2 - read Malcolm X, Chavez, Fontanez, & Cone (Harvey & Goff)

Moral Majority and the New Right

F April 1: Religious Conservatives in the 1960s - read Williams, Chapter 2-4

M April 4: Debate 4: TBA

W April 6: The development of the religious right: Read Williams, Chapters 6 - 7, Morone, Chapter 15, and Reed (Harvey and Goff)

F April 8: White Religion and White Politics: Corbett, Chapter 8; National Power - read Williams, Chapters 9 - 11
**M April 11:** Debate 5: Should religion influence US foreign Policy?

**W April 13:** Extremist Religious Right: Christian Identity, violence; religious Nativism, Trump-worship (the Cyrus Theology): reading TBA

**F April 15:** Islamophobia – read Beydoun, chapters 2 & 3.

**M April 18:** Paper Due; War on Terror & Islamophobia - read Beydoun, chapters 4 & 5.

**W April 22:** Race, Religion & Islamophobia: read Beydoun, chapters 6 & 7

**M April 25:** Last Day of Class – review for Final Exam; The Religious Left? - read Lambert, Chapter 8 (OAKS), and listen to Barber links on (OAKS).

**Final Exam: Wednesday, April 27, 3:30-5:30 p.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.

**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.”