This is a political science course about ideas, not about the actual functioning of government or the creation of public policies by government. It is, as the title implies, a study of theory not reality. However, theory has a major impact on reality because it is the primary means by which we view the political world around us. Divisions over theory have led to armed conflicts for millennia; in fact, a more appropriate name for this course might be “isms and schisms.”

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of the semester, I hope that students will have met the following goals:

1. Understand the major ideas defining each of the covered political ideologies.
2. Be able to compare and contrast these ideologies.
3. Comprehend the effects of ideology on government and society.

**Texts**


Both textbooks are required.

**Course Requirements and Grading**

The requirements for this course are designed to support the objectives previously stated in the syllabus. The first requirement will consist of three in-class exams: an early warning exam, a mid term exam and a final exam. The exams will consist of a combination of term identifications, short answer questions, and directed essay questions. The second requirement involves in class written responses to essays that I will provide to you prior to the writing assignment. Students will analyze the reading and explain the ideological perspectives that appear in it. Each response will count for up to 25 points toward the final grade, with the lowest being dropped from consideration. The final assignment will be an out of class essay. For this assignment, students will use a statement or a speech from and incumbent political figure, either from the United States or abroad. Each student will write a 4-5 page long essay addressing the ideological positions expressed.
Grades in this class will be based on a point system. Points will be allocated in the following fashion:

- Early warning exam: 50 points
- Mid term exam: 100 points
- Final exam: 100 points
- In class responses: 50 points (up to 25 points each)
- Out of class essay: 50 points

350 points

The grading scale for the class will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>350-315</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>314-279</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>278-243</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>242-207</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>206----</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make up policy: If students miss a scheduled exam, they must see me within one week of returning to class to take a make-up to be given at my convenience. There are no make-ups on the in class responses because I will drop the lowest of the three grades which compensates for a missed day.

Attendance

I will call roll each class period but will not formally reward or penalize on the grounds of attendance. However, attendance is very important for success in most college classes, including this one. A substantial portion of my lecture material will not be directly addressed in the readings. While attending class on a regular basis will not guarantee a good grade, regular non attendance will almost guarantee a bad one.

Academic advising

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an academic advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The academic advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

Notice to students with disabilities

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.) please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Corpus Christi Hall, Room 116, phone number 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.
Grade appeals process

As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined on the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures or appropriate grading may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is first encouraged to discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Website at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/universityrules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Course Outline (subject to change with notice)

The text, Dogmas and Dreams, will be referred to as D1 while the reader will be referred to as D2.

August 22, Go over syllabus and introduction to class

August 24, 27. Introduction to ideology
   D1, Ch. 1
   D2, Introduction

August 29, 31, September 5, 7,10,12, 14 Liberalism
   D1, Ch. 2
   D2, pp. 13-19
   Locke, “Treatise of Civil Government”
   Smith, “Wealth of Nations”
   Madison, Hamilton, Jay, “Federalist Papers 10 and 51”
   FDR, “Continuing Struggle for Liberalism”
   Okin, “Is Multiculturalism Bad for Women?”

September 17, Early Warning Exam

September 19, 21, 24. 26 ,28, October 1 Conservatism
   D1, Ch. 3
   D2, Burke, “Reflections on the Revolution in France”
   Bloom, “The Democratization of the University”
   Kristol, “The Neoconservative Persuasion”
   D’Souza, “The Enemy at Home”

Writing Assignment 1, October 3
October 5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17, Socialism
   D1, Ch. 4
   D2, Fourier, “Utopian Socialism”
   Marx, “Estranged Labor”
   Marx and Engels, “Communist Manifesto”
   Lenin, “State and Revolution”
   Hayden and Flacks, “The Port Huron Statement at 40”

October 19, Mid term exam

October 22, 24, 26, 29, Anarchism
   D1, Ch. 5
   D2, Goldman, “Anarchism: What it really stands for”
   Thoreau, “Essay on Civil Disobedience”
   Starhawk, “How We Really Shut Down the WTO”

October 31, November 2, Film “The Wobblies”

Writing Assignment 2, November 5

November 7, 9, 12, 14, Fascism
   D1, Ch. 6
   D2, Mussolini, “Fascism: Doctrine and Institutions”
   Hitler, “Mein Kampf”
   Macdonald, “The Turner Diaries”

November 16, 19, 21, 26, Feminism
   D1, Ch. 7
   D2, Wollstonecraft, “Vindication of the Rights of Women”
   Friedan, “Our Revolution is Unique”
   Schlafly, “The Power of the Positive Woman”
   Baumgardner and Richards, “What is Feminism?”

Writing Assignment 3, November 28

November 30, December 3 Class discussion about ideologies

Final Exam, Wednesday, December 12 at 8 a.m.