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 papers applying ideas and concepts studied to current political situations/issues.

Students will write these papers on three assigned class days. 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 an 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. These papers are due in class on Friday, November 18. No late papers will be accepted!!
Grades in this class will be based on a point system. Points will be allocated in the following fashion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early warning exam</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid term exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In class responses</td>
<td>50 (up to 25 each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of class essay</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>350 points</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

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. To encourage attendance, I will provide 10 additional points toward the final grade for any student who has three or fewer unexcused absences over the course of the semester.

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. Degree plans are prepared by the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call (361) 825-3466.

Disability Services

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361)825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.
If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services Office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Grade appeals process

Students who feel they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website (http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeals process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

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 24, Go over syllabus and introduction to class

August 26, 29, September 1. Introduction to ideology
   D1, Ch. 1
   D2, Introduction

August 31, September 2, 7, 9, 12. 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 5, Labor Day holiday

September 14, Early Warning Exam

September 16, 19, 21, 23, 26, 28, 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, September 30
October 3, 5, film on French Revolution

October 7 10, 12, 14, 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 21, Writing assignment 2

October 24, 26, 28, 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”

November 4, 7, 9, 11, Fascism
D1, Ch. 6
D2, Mussolini, “Fascism: Doctrine and Institutions”
   Hitler, “Mein Kampf”
   Macdonald, “The Turner Diaries”

November 14, 16, 18 Film on women’s movement

November 21, Writing assignment 3 (out of class)

November 23, Reading day (no class)

November 28, 30, December 2, 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?”

December 5, Last class day (hand out review for final exam)

Final Exam, Wednesday, December 14 at 8 a.m.