

Pol 1: American National Government

TA: Carlos Algara

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Pol 1 -A02 M: 5:10 - 6pm, Pol 1 -A04 W: 5:10 - 6pm Office Hours: Tuesday, 9 - 11am, Kerr Hall 657

General Policies

Office Hours: Please contact me if you need help throughout the quarter or need to make an appointment outside of office hours. I cannot stress this enough, I am *more* than willing to meet outside of my office hours if you need help with the course material.

Email Policy: Never hesitate to ask me a question or contact me via email. Please allow 24-48 hours for a response, not including weekends.

Discussions: As a discussion section, there is an expectation that everyone participates regarding the topic of discussion. It is of critical importance to your grade in this section to participate. This goes without saying, be respectful and open to differing view points, ideas, and opinions. One of the main objectives of university is to become a better rounded individual and it is critically important to come into discussion with an open mind.

Section Grade

Your participation and performance in the discussion section will account for 15% of your final grade for the course. The grading criteria is presented below:

14% Discussion Quizzes

1% Syllabus Agreement Sign-In

15% Total Discussion Section Grade

Section Attendance

General Policy: While I will not be checking for attendance during every meeting, it is of critical importance you attend the discussion section. Six discussion quizzes will be given at random, with the expectation that you are prepared to discuss the class readings for that week. Monday sections should prepare to discuss the readings assigned for Tuesday and Thursday lectures for that week, as stated in the main course syllabus.

Absences: I recognize many things can happen throughout the quarter, so you are allowed to drop **one** quiz grade if you miss the discussion section. We have 8 discussion sections together, meaning you can miss 1 discussion session and still receive full credit for the discussion quizzes portion of your grade. Please note: I am sensitive to the fact that many bigger life emergencies can happen throughout the course of the quarter. I cannot stress this enough, please don't hesitate to talk to me in that event or if you are going to have a compelling, unanticipated, non-academic absence.

Assignments

Quizzes: Generally, the quizzes will be a mix of objective and subjective questions ranging from open-ended questions to the occasional multiple choice. This is used to serve as a fairly accurate measure to whether a) you are on top of the week's reading & b) whether you have some sort of understanding for the reading. The purposes of these quizzes is to serve as a guide to whether you understand the material or if there was a fundamental misunderstanding among the class regarding a concept in the readings. There will be six pop quizzes. The lowest score of the quizzes will be dropped. Grades for these quizzes will be posted on Smartsite.

Syllabus Agreement Sign-In: This syllabus serves as a contract between you and me for the Spring quarter. The purpose of this sign-in is to confirm that you read the contract, are aware of your expectations during this discussion section, and that you acknowledge that you received the syllabus. **Sign-In Submission:** Please send me an e-mail, by Friday April 4th at noon, saying "I have read and understand your section syllabus." Please ask any clarification questions in the email. Late submissions will not be accepted, under any circumstance.

Section Readings

Please come prepared to discuss the current week's readings for the discussion section. Dr. Stone and I have the expectation that you do the readings before coming to lecture and the discussion section. It is fairly obvious when one does not attempt the readings, so please come prepared. I will call randomly on students from time to time.