POLS & PSY 308: Political Psychology
Spring 2020

Professor: Jongho Lee, Ph.D.
Office: Morgan 412
Telephone: (309) 298-1055
Email: J-Lee6@wiu.edu

Meeting Time: T & TH 12:30 – 1:45 PM
Meeting Place: Morgan 316
Office Hours: T & TH 11 AM – 12 PM
W 1 – 3 PM

Course Overview

As a field of study, political psychology is a broad, interdisciplinary practice that employs social and cognitive psychological theories and findings (along with theories and findings from neuroscience, genetics, and physiology) to account for human behavior in politics. Located at the intersection of political science and psychology, it is premised on the idea that cross-pollination between political science and psychology is strongly desired and should actively be encouraged to have a better understanding of the political attitudes and behaviors of elites as well as ordinary citizens.

This course introduces students to the field of political psychology. We will focus on the political applications of various psychological studies in such areas as cognition, emotion, information processing, personality, stereotyping, prejudice, and decision making. An understanding of the psychological foundations of human behavior in politics will help students be better prepared to address a variety of issues and vexing questions that arise as they study the origins and patterns of public opinion, political participation, domestic and foreign-policy decision making, leadership, political conflicts, racism, ethnocentrism, nationalism, political extremism, political violence, and terrorism.

Course Objectives

The primary objective of the course is two-fold:

(1) To help students better comprehend how individual political actors—political elites as well as ordinary citizens—make sense of their environments, process information, and arrive at their decisions in the realm of politics; and

(2) To develop and refine students' analytical skills by exposing them to multiple methodologies in the social sciences ranging from experimental research to survey research to case studies.

Course Materials

There is one *required* text for the course:

Cottam, Martha, Elena M. Mastors, Thomas Preston, and Beth Dietz. 2016. Introduction to Political Psychology (3rd Edition). New York, NY: Routledge.

There are two *recommended* texts, which are placed on reserve at the Leslie F. Malpass Library.

Huddy, Leonie, David O. Sears, and Jack S. Levy (eds.). 2013. The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology (2nd Edition). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Jost, John T., and Jim Sidanius (eds). 2004. Political Psychology: Key Readings in Social Psychology. New York, NY: Psychology Press.

As shown in the Course Outline below, there are additional journal articles and book chapters required for the course. *Occasionally, supplementary readings may also be assigned*. These readings should be treated as though they are required texts. Supplementary readings will be announced in class at least one week in advance. All additional readings will be placed on either the class website at Western Online or reserve, or e-reserve, at the Leslie F. Malpass Library. *All readings should be completed by the week of class session for which they are assigned.*

* Class information and materials will be posted and regularly updated on the website for the course at Western Online: Go to https://WesternOnline.wiu.edu and log in with your ECOM user name and password.

Course Requirements and Grading

Attendance and Participation (10%)

Class attendance is *required*. Periodically, attendance will be taken at any point during the semester by way of circulating a sign-up sheet at the beginning of the class period. It is your responsibility to make sure that you have signed the attendance sheet if you are in class. You will be allowed up to three unexcused absences during the semester. Each absence beyond that will result in the deduction of one percentage point from your attendance and participation portion of grade. Participation in class discussion is also expected. Students' participation will be evaluated at the discretion of the professor. This component is worth 10% of your overall grade in this class.

Exams—Exam 1 (25%), Exam 2 (25%), and Final (25%)

Over the course of the semester, there will be three in-class exams—two mid-terms and the final. The exams will include short and long essay questions. Each exam will be based on lectures, readings, and class discussions and worth 25% of your overall grade. The final exam will *not* be cumulative.

Presentation (or Written Assignment) (15%)

You will be asked to make an in-class presentation on a question (issue), or a set of questions, closely related to any of the topics covered in the course. The presentation will be about 12 minutes long and you are expected to use and submit to me a set of PowerPoint presentation slides for your presentation. You are encouraged to present early in the semester and expected to inform me of a preferred date of your presentation at least *one week prior to* the date you want to present.

Alternatively, in lieu of the in-class presentation, you may choose to write an essay (a relatively brief research paper) on a question (issue), or a set of questions, closely related to any of the topics dealt with in the class. The essay will be about <u>five</u> typed, double-spaced pages long (exclusive of a title page and bibliography). It is due on **Thursday, April 30**. A late submission will be penalized two percentage points.

Your presentation, or your essay (if you choose to write an essay in lieu of making an in-class presentation), will be graded according to the following criteria.

- Development (5%) – How clearly, logically, and coherently have you developed and stated the main idea and arguments?

- Exposition (5%) – How much have you provided informed reasons and evidence to support the main idea and arguments?

- Fair acknowledgement of alternative explanations and/or opposing views (5%) – How well have you considered and reacted to alternative explanations and/or counter arguments?

Grading Scale

93-100%	=	A	89-92%	=	A^-
86-88%	=	B^+	83-85%	=	B
79-82%	=	B^-	76-78%	=	C^+
73-75%	=	C	69-72%	=	C^-
66-68%	=	D^+	63-65%	=	D
59-62%	=	D^-	Below 59%	=	F

Course Policies

Course Rules

- All written assignments should be submitted at the beginning of class on the due date. Late submissions will be penalized two percentage points.
- As a rule, make-up exams will only be permitted in cases of *documented* medical or personal emergencies.
- Please come to class on time and stay for the entire class period. Cell phones should be turned off before arriving in class.
- Please treat your fellow students with respect.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Please visit http://www.wiu.edu/provost/students.php for details.

Academic Integrity

Please visit http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php for details.

Students with Disabilities

"In accordance with University values and disability law, students with disabilities may request academic accommodations where there are aspects of a course that result in barriers to inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement. To file an official request for disability-related accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center at 309-298-2512, disability@wiu.edu or in 143 Memorial Hall. Please notify the instructor as soon as possible to ensure that this course is accessible to you in a timely manner."

Title IX Policy

"University values, Title IX, and other federal and state laws prohibit sex discrimination, including sexual assault/misconduct, dating/domestic violence, and stalking. If you, or someone you know, has been the victim of any of these offenses, we encourage you to report this to the Title IX Coordinator at 309-298-1977 or anonymously online at: http://www.wiu.edu/equal_opportunity_and_access/request_form/index.php. If you disclose an incident to a faculty member, the faculty member must notify the Title IX Coordinator. The complete Title IX policy is available at: http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/policies/titleIX.php."

Course Outline

* *Please note that the following schedule is subject to change.*

Cottam: Cottam et al.'s *Introduction to Political Psychology*
Huddy: Huddy, Sears, and Levy's *The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology*
Jost: Jost and Sidanius' *Political Psychology*

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments
1	1/14 1/16	Course Introduction What is Political Psychology?	 Cottam Ch 1/ Jost pp. 1-31
2	1/21 & 23	Attitudes, Opinion, and Rationality	Cottam Ch 3 Jost pp. 181-99/ Simon[i]/ Wilson[ii]
3	1/28 & 30	Heuristics and Decision-Making	Kuklinski[iii]/ Jost pp. 241-70/ Lau[iv]
4	2/4 2/6	Nature of Emotion Emotion and Politics	Huddy Ch 6/ LeDoux[v]/ Debiec[vi] Jost pp. 163-76
5	2/11 2/13	Emotion and Politics (cont.) Voting Behavior	Brader[vii]/ Brader[viii] Cottam Ch 6
6	2/18 2/20	**Exam 1** Personality and Politics	 Cottam Ch 2
7	2/25 & 27	Personality and Politics (cont.)	Jost pp. 108-23/ Huddy Ch 2
8	3/3 & 5	Study of Political Leaders	Cottam Ch 5/ Huddy Ch 14 & 15
9	3/9-13	Spring Break (No Classes)	
10	3/17 & 19	Race and Ethnicity	Cottam Ch 8/ Huddy Ch 25 Jost pp. 333-77
11	3/24 & 26	Intergroup Relations	Cottam Ch 4/ Huddy Ch 23 Jost pp. 271-93
12	3/31 4/2	Ethnic Conflict & Violence **Exam 2**	Cottam Ch 9 & 10/ Jost pp. 379-410
13	4/7 & 9	Extremism & Terrorism	Cottam Ch 12/ Jost pp. 411-31/ Hegghammer[ix]
14	4/14-16	International Security and Conflict	Cottam Ch 13 & 14/ Huddy Ch10
15	4/21 & 23	Biology and Politics	Alford[x]/ Alford[xi]/ Oxley[xii]/ Hatemi[xiii]/ Alford[xiv]
16	4/28 4/30	Biology and Politics (cont.) Catch-up	Huddy Ch 8/ Hibbing[xv]/ Smith[xvi] **Essay is due on Apr 30**

*** Final exam is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, at 1 PM.**

[i] Simon, Herbert. 1985. "Human Nature in Politics: The Dialogue of Psychology with Political Science." American Political Science Review 79:293-304. *On Western Online*

[ii] Wilson, Timothy D., and Jonathan W. Schooler. 1991. "Thinking Too Much: Introspection Can Reduce the Quality of Preferences and Decisions." Journal of Personality and Social Psychology 60:181-92. *On Western Online*

[iii] Kuklinski, James H., and Paul J. Quirk. 2000. "Reconsidering the Rational Public: Cognition, Heuristics, and Mass Opinion." In Elements of Reason: Cognition, Choice, and the Bounds of Rationality, ed. Arthur Lupia, Mathew D. McCubbins, and Samuel L. Popkin. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. *On Western Online*

[iv] Lau, Richard, and David Redlawsk. 2001. "Advantages and Disadvantages of Cognitive Heuristics in Political Decision Making." American Journal of Political Science 45:951-71. *On Western Online*

[v] LeDoux, Joseph. 1995. "Emotion: Clues from the Brain." Annual Review of Psychology 46:209-35. *On Western Online*

[vi] DeBiec, Jacek, and Joseph LeDoux. 2004. "Fear and the Brain." Social Research 71:807-18. *On Western Online*

[vii] Brader, Ted. 2005. "Striking a Responsive Chord: How Campaign Ads Motivate and Persuade Voters by Appealing to Emotions." American Journal of Political Science 49: 388-405. *On Western Online*

[viii] Brader, Ted, Nicholas A. Valentino, and Elizabeth Suhay. 2008. "What Triggers Public Opposition to Immigration? Anxiety, Group Cues, and Immigration Threat." American Journal of Political Science 52: 959-78. *On Western Online*

[ix] Hegghammer, Thomas. 2013. "Should I Stay or Should I Go? Explaining Variation in Western Jihadists' Choice between Domestic and Foreign Fighting." American Political Science Review 107:1-15. *On Western Online*

[x] Alford, John R., and John R. Hibbing. 2004. "The Origin of Politics: An Evolutionary Theory of Political Behavior." Perspectives on Politics 2:707-23. *On Western Online*

[xi] Alford, John R., Carolyn L. Funk, and John R. Hibbing. 2005. "Are Political Orientations Genetically Transmitted?" American Political Science Review 99:153-167. *On Western Online*

[xii] Oxley, Douglas R., Kevin B. Smith, John R. Alford, Matthew V. Hibbing, Jennifer L. Miller, Mario Scalora, Peter K. Hatemi, and John R. Hibbing. 2008. "Political Attitudes Vary with Physiological Traits." Science 321:1667-70. *On Western Online*

[xiii] Hatemi, Peter, John R. Alford, John R. Hibbing, Nicholas G. Martin, and Lindon J. Eaves. 2009. "Is There a 'Party' in Your Genes?" Political Research Quarterly 62:584-600. *On Western Online*

[xiv] Alford, John R., Peter K. Hatemi, John R. Hibbing, Nicholas G. Martin, and Lindon J. Eaves. 2011. "The Politics of Mate Choice." Journal of Politics 73:362-79. *On Western Online*

[xv] Hibbing, John R. 2013. "Ten Misconceptions Concerning Neurobiology and Politics." Perspectives on Politics 11:475-89. *On Western Online*

[xvi] Smith, Kevin, John R. Alford, Peter K. Hatemi, Lindon J. Eaves, Carolyn Funk, and John R. Hibbing. 2012. "Biology, Ideology, and Epistemology: How Do We Know Political Attitudes Are Inherited and Why Should We Care?" American Journal of Political Science 56:17-33. *On Western Online*